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Sports, B1

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I&M plans $62M in Berrien upgrades

Utility says move will increase reliability

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

BERRIEN SPRINGS — Indiana Michigan Power has announced a plan to invest about $62 million into the Berrien Springs/Eau Claire area this year.

The plan, announced Monday, will upgrade electric transmission systems to ensure safe and reliable electric service to customers in Berrien County, according to a news release.

The improvement project involves constructing a new substation along East Main Street in Eau Claire. The Blossom Trail Substation project will include adding about a half mile of transmission lines to connect it to existing lines.

In addition, the Berrien Springs Substation will be replaced with the new Boxer Substation near the dam.

Construction is set to begin early this year and conclude at the end of 2020.

Transmission lines in the area will be upgraded from 34.5 kiloVolts (kV) to 69 kV standards to help enhance energy reliability in the area, according to the release.

The project plan also includes rebuilding about four miles of power lines in four smaller segments in the existing right-of-way. Some sections may include re-routes and require new easements.

I&M representatives will be in contact with landowners and residents throughout the project, I&M official said.

"The improvements will, strengthen the local electric transmission system, reduce the likelihood of power outages, speed recovery of service when outages occur and support economic development," according to I&M.

I&M officials did not respond before deadline to questions to provide more information about the project, such as how old the existing infrastructure is.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

THE SUNNY SIDE OF LIFE

Don Campbell / HP staff

A man walks along the North Pier in St. Joseph during Monday afternoon's sunny weather, as January temperatures continue to be on the mild side.

BENTON HARBOR

City OKs monthly trash check to Edwards

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Benton Harbor city commissioners Monday approved paying Wecycle Industrial Sanitation its monthly fee of just over $39,000, with the stipulation that it be given to Robert Edwards.

But it wasn't done without some dissent.

Three people claim ownership of the company. Mayor Marcus Muhammad said the contract with the city was signed by Edwards. But on Jan. 2, the other two who claim ownership, siblings Virginia Huddleston and Jewell Allen, gave the city a letter stating that Edwards was no longer to pick up the check.

None of the three people who say they are the owners spoke during Monday's meeting.

Commissioners approved giving the check to Edwards by a vote of 6-2.

Commissioner Mary-Alice Adams abstained because Huddleston and Allen are her siblings.

Commissioner Duane Seats said the money needs to be given to the person who signed the contract and is doing the work.

See **TRASH**, page A8

St. Joseph Township excited about joint harbor project

BH also approves meeting on the topic

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — It will take major communication and cooperation among officials from three communities to make the Twin Cities Sustainable Harbor Project a success.

But if the long-talked about development spanning parts of Benton Harbor, St. Joseph and St. Joseph Township becomes a reality, it will bring all three municipalities in the region great benefits for years to come.

That was the message delivered Monday by a consultant on the project, and St. Joseph Township officials agreed.

"There's not a huge spot of land (in St. Joseph Township), but if you develop the harbor, you're going to draw other development. This is a regional project and it will be a plus for all of us," St. Joseph Township Manager Denise Cook said at a board workshop.

The board of trustees, at its evening meeting, approved a resolution calling for a joint meeting with the Benton Harbor and St. Joseph city commissions to begin a partnership among the three communities and "work together toward building relationships for the best interest of the harbor and its future." All three municipal bodies are being asked to approve the resolution.

Benton Harbor city commissioners also signed up to meet with St. Joseph and St. Joseph Township, by an 8-1 vote, but not without some controversy.

Commissioner Duane Seats cast the lone no vote, claiming the two other municipalities are trying to "take over" Benton Harbor.

"I can't support none of this because you are killing the future of your children," he said.

Mayor Marcus Muhammad said the plan will bring in much needed tax money.

Muhammad said that a former basketball coach once told him, "Opportunity, when it knocks, successful people answer."

At the St. Joseph Township meeting, Emily Finnell from Michigan's Office of Great Lakes provided an update on the plan for growth along the waterfront over the next 20 years. A study that took in 728 acres within a quarter-mile radius of the waterfront and harbor was the largest ever conducted by the OGL in Michigan and the Great Lakes area, Finnell said.

Through a series of community meetings, it was determined that development, transportation, connectivity, the environment and collaborative governance are priorities of not just elected officials, but area residents as well. Also important are public access

See **HARBOR PROJECT**, page A8

ST. JOSEPH TWP.

Playground equipment coming to Maiden Lane park

Township lands $110K grant for project

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — St. Joseph Township has received a $110,000 matching grant toward the estimated $220,000 cost to install playground and equipment and other amenities at Maiden Lane Community Park.

"This is great news, and a long-time coming," said township Supervisor Roger Seely. "The park and the residents deserve it. This will finally give us playground equipment."

He said that during soccer season, some 800 to 1,000 people visit the park on any given day. The children accompanying their parents to watch or take part in events too often have nothing to do, township trustees have said.

Don Campbell / HP staff

St. Joseph Township has received a $110,000 grant toward the installation of playground equipment at Maiden Lane Community Park.

The board on Monday approved a professional services agreement for Abonmarche to manage the project for $19,500. That includes the design phase, $12,000; bidding phase, $3,000; and construction administration, $4,500.

Township Manager Denise Cook said the township applied for a grant last year for playground equipment at Maiden Lane Park but did not get it. She said the parks committee noted that the township received excellent services from Abonmarche grant writer Joelle Regovich and engineer Corey Kandow

See **PLAYGROUND**, page A8

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Weather

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‘Honest mistake’ sets off alarm about U.S. troops in Iraq

By LOLITA C. BALDOR and ROBERT BURNS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For a few tense hours Monday, the United States appeared to have announced that American troops were pulling out of Baghdad after nearly 17 years.

Turns out, it was just an “honest mistake.”

“Here’s the bottom line, this was a mistake,” Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said as he tried to unravel a knot of miscommunication that came at a time of already soaring tensions with the Middle East.

The bungled message started when a draft letter from Marine Brig. Gen. William Seely began circulating on social media. Addressed to an official at the Iraqi Ministry of Defense, the letter said U.S. troops would be “repositioning forces” to prepare for “onward movement.”

Seely added, “We respect your sovereign decision to order our departure.”

The “order” Seely mentioned was a reference to the Iraqi parliament’s vote over the weekend to expel U.S. troops after an American drone attack killed a top Iranian general in Baghdad.

A flurry of news reports followed Seely’s letter, saying the United States was ending its military presence in Iraq.

But after a few hours of denials and frantic phone calls, top Pentagon leaders tried to do damage control, stating flatly that the U.S. had no plans to leave and saying the letter was a poorly worded draft that never should have gone out.

“Nobody’s leaving,” Milley said. “There’s no onward movement. Honest mistake.”

Defense Secretary Mark Esper said the U.S. has been re-positioning troops, largely due to increased security threats from Iran. The letter was meant to coordinate with the Iraqi military on an increase in U.S. helicopter and troop movements as they shift positions around the country, Esper and Milley said.

“There’s been no decision whatsover to leave Iraq,” Esper said. “There’s no decision to leave, nor did we issue any plans to leave or prepare to leave.”

It’s not entirely clear who leaked the letter. According to Milley, the draft was circulated to key Iraqi officials as part of a coordination process to let them know about the increased helicopter movements. Officials say it was first posted on the website of an Iranian-backed militia group.

“Now it’s a kerfuffle,” Milley lamented.

Efforts Monday to reach Seely and his spokesperson were not successful.

The blunder is a black eye for the Pentagon at a time of high tensions stemming from the targeted killing of Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani, the head of Iran’s elite Quds Force.

Alex Brandon / AP

A supporters of the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, or the MEK, an Iranian exile group, dances as others hold signs and flags during a show of support for a U.S. airstrike in Iraq that killed Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani, in Lafayette Park across from the White House in Washington on Sunday.

U.S. braces for Iranian response: A ‘tit for tat’ assault?

By LOLITA BALDOR, ROBERT BURNS and ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. officials on Monday braced for Iran to respond to the killing of its most powerful general, noting heightened military readiness in the country and preparing for a possible “tit-for-tat” attempt on the life of an American military commander.

President Donald Trump ordered the Jan. 2 strike against Gen. Qassem Soleimani, the head of Iran’s elite Quds Force, after the death of an American contractor in Iraq. Now, as the massive demonstrations of Iran’s public mourning period for Soleimani come to a close, officials believe the next steps by America’ longtime foe will determine the ultimate course of the latest crisis.

While officials say American intelligence isn’t clear on whether Iran’s latest military moves are designed to bolster Tehran’s defenses or prepare for an offensive strike, the U.S. is continuing to reinforce its own positions in the region, including repositioning some forces. One official said the U.S. anticipated a “major” attack of some type within the next day or two.

Soleimani’s death, which has sparked major protests, further nuclear development and new threats of violence, has raised the prospect of a wide and unpredictable conflict in the Middle East and escalated tensions between Iran and the U.S.

The two nations have careened from one flare-up to another since Trump began his “maximum pressure” campaign against Iran shortly after taking office. He abrogated the 2015 nuclear deal and reimposed crushing economic sanctions, both steps aimed at preventing Iran from getting a nuclear weapon and deterring the sort of regional aggression spearheaded by Soleimani.

Two U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss internal discussions, said targeting Soleimani was not representative of a wholesale shift in American policy toward Iran, despite Secretary of State Mike Pompeo’s comments on Sunday that the U.S. was targeting Iran’s “actual decision-makers” rather than its network of proxy allies. Trump has repeatedly contended that he is not seeking “regime change” in Iran, as has been pushed by some of his more hawkish advisers.

Still, Trump’s strike against Soleimani, a revered figure in Iran whose death sparked large displays of anger and grief, was a risky decision his Republican and Democratic predecessors opted not to take out of concern it would draw the U.S. and Iran closer to conflict.

U.S. officials are also aware that Iran could try to strike a high-level American leader in a “tit-for-tat” move, potentially a military commander.

One official said some Iranian ships have spread out, and while the intent isn’t immediately clear, they could move rapidly to attack.

The U.S. military has increased protection of its forces, particularly in Iraq. Officials said a number of the recently deployed soldiers from the 1st Brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division had moved into Iraq from Kuwait in order to increase security for Americans there. The U.S. military has stopped all training of Iraqi forces to focus on force protection, officials said.

As of Monday, officials said, there had not been a broadly distributed order or recommendation to increase security at military installations worldwide. Instead, decisions were being left up to the commanders.

The U.S. military’s concern about its vulnerability to Iranian attack in the Persian Gulf region has been at a heightened state since about May, when the administration reported it was getting intelligence indications that Iran was planning attacks on U.S. interests in Iraq and elsewhere in the region. The Pentagon sent additional forces to the Gulf at that point, and in July it worked out an arrangement with the government of Saudi Arabia to send U.S. forces to a large base deep in the Saudi desert, in less obvious range of Iranian missiles.

The main hub for American military air operations throughout the Middle East is located at al-Udeid air base in Qatar – within easy range of Iranian missiles. American forces also are stationed in the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. The Navy’s 5th Fleet, which operates throughout the region, is based at Bahrain.

In remarks to reporters Monday, Gen. Milley insisted that the intelligence on which Trump based his decision to kill Soleimani called for urgent action.

“I’ll stand by the intelligence I saw,” he said, adding that details had not been made public because they are classified. He said the intelligence showed Soleimani was plotting attacks and that the U.S. would have been negligent not to act.

LOTTERIES

Monday drawings

Michigan
Poker Lotto
AS-7D-10D-7H-9H
Midday Daily 3
7-2-2
Midday Daily 4
1-4-6-1
Daily 3
4-9-3
Daily 4
4-6-0-5
Fantasy 5
16-20-35-36-37
Keno
02-06-12-18-19-28-33-34-38-39-42-49-54-55-58-63-64-69-74-75-78-79
Mega Millions jackpot
$60 million
Powerball jackpot
$258 million

Sunday drawings

Indiana
Cash 5
04-10-18-19-45
Cash4Life
41-43-45-59-60, Cash Ball: 4
Quick Draw Midday
08-09-13-20-22-23-25-31-36-38-47-51-57-59-62-64-65-71-75-78, BE: 23
Daily Three-Midday
5-5-8, SB: 9
Daily Three-Evening
1-8-8, SB: 9
Daily Four-Midday
8-7-3-5, SB: 9
Daily Four-Evening
8-5-0-9, SB: 9
Quick Draw Evening
01-03-06-13-16-25-34-36-37-39-42-48-60-61-62-65-70-72-74-80, BE: 65

Illinois
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
06-07-17-34-37
Pick Three-Midday
2-4-9, Fireball: 5
Pick Three-Evening
5-3-3, Fireball: 6
Pick Four-Midday
9-5-4-3, Fireball: 2
Pick Four-Evening
3-1-1-0, Fireball: 2
Lucky Day Lotto
04-05-21-28-43

– The Associated Press

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Trump tests Congress’ war powers with Iran strike

By LISA MASCARO and DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

Kevin Wolf / AP

President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump exit Air Force One on Sunday at Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump’s confrontation with Iran is posing a gut check for Congress, brazenly testing whether the House and Senate will exert their own authority over U.S. military strategy or cede more war powers to the White House.

As tensions rise at home and abroad, Speaker Nancy Pelosi will hold House votes this week to limit Trump’s ability to engage Iran militarily after the surprise U.S. airstrike that killed Gen. Qassem Soleimani. A Senate vote is expected to soon follow.

Yet Congress has shown time and again it is unable to exert its ability to authorize – or halt – the use of military force. With their inaction, lawmakers have begrudgingly allowed the commander in chief to all but disregard Congress.

“I think this president has pushed this to the limit with action that has a huge, escalating effect,” said Scott Anderson, a former attorney in the State Department’s legal office and former legal adviser for the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. “Maybe this will push Congress to make it a priority. ... Anything short of legislative action doesn’t mean anything.”

The showdown between the White House and Capitol Hill provides the latest example of how Trump’s willingness to break the norms in Washington is setting new standards in governance.

Ahead of the attack that killed the Iranian general, the president did not consult with congressional leaders. In the aftermath, he refused to make public his justification for the airstrikes.

Facing an outcry, Trump scoffed that his tweets should provide adequate updates to Congress, regardless of what is required by law.

Jack Goldsmith, a professor at Harvard Law School, said both parties in Congress have for years gone along with an expansion of presidential war powers, especially with regard to the conflicts in the Middle East.

“In short, our country has – through presidential aggrandizement accompanied by congressional authorization, delegation, and acquiescence – given one person, the president, a sprawling military and enormous discretion to use it in ways that can easily lead to a massive war,” Goldsmith said in an essay in Lawfare, an online newsletter he co-founded. “That is our system: One person decides.”

Past presidents at least signaled a nod to the legislative branch, which has the sole power under the Constitution to declare war, knowing they would need to ask Congress to pay for military operations. It’s one way the founders sought to keep the executive in check.

But Congress has allowed its role to erode since the passage of Authorization for Use of Military Force in 2001 to fight terrorism after the Sept. 11 attacks, and passage of another AUMF for the invasion of Iraq in 2002.

The fallout from those votes has deeply divided Congress and the nation, with many lawmakers, particularly Democrats, now saying they were mistakes. Yet lawmakers have been paralyzed on the question of whether to repeal or change those authorities.

Only after U.S.-based journalist Jamal Khashoggi was killed last summer in a gruesome murder at the Saudi Arabian consulate in Turkey did Congress muster the resolve to slap restrictions on U.S. involvement with the Saudi-led war in Yemen.

It was a rare exertion of authority from Congress, the first since the passage of the War Powers Act of 1973. And Trump promptly vetoed it.

“There’s no question the president has gotten stronger over time, the Congress less strong,” said Wendy Sherman, a former undersecretary of state in the Obama administration and chief negotiator of the Iran nuclear deal.

Pelosi announced the House will vote this week on a resolution from Rep. Elissa Slotkin, D-Mich., a former CIA and Defense Department official, that would require an end to the action against Iran unless Congress votes to authorize it.

On Monday, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and Sen. Robert Menendez, the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, called on Trump to declassify “in full” his notification to Congress over the weekend justifying the strikes.

Under the War Powers Act, the White House has 48 hours to notify Congress of such actions. Pelosi said it was “highly unusual” for the information to be entirely classified and is demanding a full briefing for Congress.

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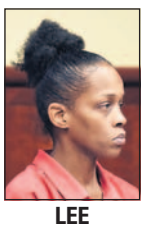
BERRIEN COUNTY TRIAL COURT

Motion filed to reinstate charge against BH woman

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — The Benton Harbor woman whose murder charge was dismissed in November might be facing it once again.

Prosecutors filed a motion Monday morning to reinstate the first-degree felony murder charge that Felicia Lee, 43, had been charged with in connection to the July 31 shooting death of Arsenio Jordan.


LEE

Berrien County Trial Court Judge Gordon Hosbein ruled Nov. 25 that he did not find probable cause to bind Lee over on the murder charge, but did on a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon, a four-year felony.

It is alleged that Lee and her sons, Dennis Holbrook, 23, and Eric Holbrook, 21, went to a house on Superior Street in Benton Harbor the afternoon of July 31 to confront a woman they said owed money to Lee.

Arsenio Jordan, 29, and several of his relatives were outside on the porch at the house. Lee approached a woman, carrying a large stick or a log, according to testimony. Shots were fired. Dennis Holbrook was shot and injured and Jordan was fatally shot in the head.

Hosbein said in his decision to drop the murder charge that he couldn't find a causal link between Lee setting off the events and Jordan being murdered. He continued that the death that resulted is not linked to the reason she went over there.

Berrien Assistant Prosecutor Trevor Maveal said Monday that the motion to reinstate the charge was because the prosecution believes there is a link.

"She went over there to get her money, either with extortion or force," he said. "The defense will have time to review the motion and it will be heard by a judge."

That case is set to go to trial Jan. 21.

Lee was set to be sentenced Monday on a separate count of harboring a felon, which she had pleaded guilty to in November. Eric Holbrook had allegedly been hiding at his mother's house after the incident, before being arrested.

Lee's lawyer, Edwin Johnson, said Monday that Lee was set to take a plea deal in the assault with a dangerous weapon case next week during a pre-trial hearing. He requested the sentencing in the harboring a felon case be rescheduled until after that case is finished up.

Berrien Judge Angela Pasula rescheduled the sentencing to 11 am. Jan. 27. Though the harboring a felon charge carries a four-year prison sentence, it is recommended she be sentenced to time served.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

FROZEN

Don Campbell / HP staff

A lone leaf remains frozen in ice at Riverview Park in St. Joseph on Monday afternoon.

Tensions rise at Baroda Village Council meeting

Council president moves trustee off personnel committee

By WILLIAM F. AST III
HP Correspondent

BARODA — Baroda Village Council President Bob Getz on Monday bounced Trustee Mike Price off the council's personnel committee, saying that Price has a conflict of interest because his wife, Christina, is Baroda township clerk.

The action followed a long and sometimes chippy discussion of who owns and is responsible for the marquee sign outside the Baroda Municipal Building. Mike Price said the village is "wasting taxpayers' money" by involving the village's lawyer, and Getz at that point gaveled him down.

Getz said the Prices had talked with Diane Mensinger, Berrien County chief deputy clerk and a former Baroda Village clerk, charging him with violating the Michigan Open Meetings Act through taking council votes by phone, and spending money illegally.

"I've been president for 18 years and I know what's legal and what isn't," Getz said. Besides, he said, he had talked with the lawyer about the expenditure in question – a $250 "donation" to Stevensville in exchange for use of one of its trucks – and the lawyer said it was OK "as long as we received a service."

"All I know is I'm getting tired of being accused of acting illegally," Getz said.

Asked after the meeting about taking Mike Price off the personnel committee, Getz said, "Well, it seems that whatever we talk about gets back to his wife, which is fine, if she was just his wife, but being the township clerk, it appears to be a conflict of interest, so that's why. The personnel committee deals with evaluations and all that kind of thing, and that needs to stay between the personnel committee and the employees."

Mike Price after the meeting declined to comment. Christina Price said she had talked with Mensinger, but that took place at a Berrien County Clerks Association meeting and that she had not contacted Mensinger to talk about Baroda.

"We're only trying to do what's right," Christina Price said.

The upshot of the marquee sign discussion is that the township owns the sign but the Baroda Township Fire Department will operate it.

Christina Price and Baroda Township Trustee David Wolf were at the village meeting to discuss a joint ordinance about Knox Boxes. Those are locked boxes with keys to commercial buildings that firefighters can use in an emergency.

The Baroda Township Board had approved the concept, but wanted to coordinate any ordinance with the village council. Wolf and Getz agreed that the ordinance should only affect new construction and businesses that spend $20,000 or more on remodeling.

See COUNCIL, page A4

BERRIEN SPRINGS

Richter to retire as village council president

Last day will be Feb. 17

By DEBRA HAIGHT
HP Correspondent

BERRIEN SPRINGS — Changes are coming to the Berrien Springs Village Council. Village President Milt Richter announced Monday night that he is retiring next month after nearly 10 years as president and a total of more than 12 years on the council.

Richter, 78, was first appointed to the council in November 2007 to fill a vacancy. He was appointed village president in September 2010 and has been re-elected to new two year terms ever since, most recently in 2018.

He is retired from Lake Michigan College where he taught business courses after a career as the college's comptroller and director of the small business development center. He has been active in the community over the years and said he's looking at a couple of opportunities to serve.

"I'm thinking it is time to take a hiatus and let someone else take over," Richter said at the start of Monday night's council meeting. "I have set Feb. 17 as my retirement date."

"I've been president for 10 years and I think we've gotten a lot done," he noted. "The village looks better all the time. We're getting more people coming in and more is going on. The village staff has done a heck of a job. … It's been a heck of a ride."

Richter said after the meeting that he had been thinking about retiring for a while. "It's been a pretty long thought process. I felt it was time for a change," he said. "We've made some great progress."

Richter's tenure as village president has included numerous achievements, ranging from the village's commitment to making infrastructure improvements over several years, to partnering with Oronoko Township to get water and sewer lines extended into the township.

He and council members also oversaw the expansion of the village-owned Shamrock Park campground, the passage of updated village ordinances. and sponsoring last year's successful Fourth of July celebration in the village.

Richter gave out information at the end of the meeting to guide council members in finding a replacement for him. He said the council will have to approve someone as the new president and then appoint someone else to fill the vacancy left by a council member becoming president. Barry Gravitt is current council president pro-tem.

Whoever is appointed president will have to run again in November for a new two-year term. Three council seats will also be up this November, those currently held by Jack Davis, Gravitt and Kristin von Maur.

2020 also starts with village employees getting a 3 percent pay raise. Council members held a special meeting in December to give employees the wage hike. Nearly all full-time and part-time employees are getting the pay raise for 2020. The only person not getting a raise is code enforcement officer Shane Daniel, who is already receiving a higher than average pay for his position.

The council will be conducting a wage study in coming months to see if any other salary adjustments should be made.

New format for South Haven's MLK observance celebration

Lunch to be served with program

By BECKY KARK
For The Herald-Palladium

SOUTH HAVEN – For the past eight years, South Haven residents have observed Martin Luther King Jr. Day by packaging rice to give to local food pantries.

This year, however, organizers are going to do things a little differently. Instead of conducting a day service, they're going to honor the late American civil rights leader by putting together a program that pays tribute to his accomplishments.

"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: His Work, His Message, His Legacy," will take place from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday, Jan. 20, at South Haven High School.

Participants will be offered a complimentary lunch, prepared by the lunchroom staff, and then take part in a program consisting of speakers, music and presentations.

Rosalie Plechaty, a member of the South Haven Area Diversity Coalition, and Jeffrey Dick, pastor of First Congregational Church, are helping to coordinate this year's MLK program.

"After observing the event last year – packing rice and folks leaving quickly – Jeffrey and I thought we could skip the rice, which was becoming expensive, for something more meaningful," Plechaty said. "We thought having a sit-down lunch to simply share fellowship could be achieved; a true celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King and his message."

Even though the format of this year's observance will be different, organizers still want to uphold King's message of responsibility and service by asking participants to bring laundry detergent to the event to donate to We Care INC's personal care pantries in South Haven and Covert.

The person or organization that brings in the most detergent will receive the "MLK Trophy of Generosity."

"We chose laundry detergent because it is greatly needed and very expensive," Plechaty explained. "Most personal care items are not covered by any kind of cash assistance."

Individuals and organizations who want to participate in the MLK luncheon and program should register to do so by calling Plechaty at 269-271-6307, or emailing her at plechatyrm@gmail.com. The deadline to register is Jan. 15.

Minister to speak at Covert program

By HP STAFF

SCOTT SR.

COVERT — Residents in Covert plan to honor the contributions made by one of America's greatest civil rights leaders during the annual event, Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

This year's program, now in its 34th year, will take place at 4 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 19, at the Covert High School auditorium.

The theme of the tribute is "Moving in the Power of the Dream," and features Kalamazoo minister and and author Michael Scott Sr. as the keynote speaker.

A pastor of Galilee Baptist Church and founder of the Michael T. Scott Ministries, Scott has been active in the Kalamazoo community for a number of years. He has served on the board of directors for the YMCA of Great Kalamazoo, Gryphon Place and Communities in Schools of Kalamazoo. He also is the immediate past president of the Northside Ministerial Alliance of Kalamazoo.

See MINISTER, page A4

Chihuahuas are top dog in VB County for 2019

By HP STAFF

PAW PAW — If you're a Van Buren County dog owner, there's a decent chance your pet is a Chihuahua and that its name is Bella.

That's the finding of the Van Buren County Treasurer's office, which oversees the county's dog licensing program.

County Treasurer Trisha Nesbitt on Monday released the most popular dog names and dog breeds of 2019.

Based on the 6,000 dog licenses issued last year to Van Buren dog owners, Bella is the most popular name and the most popular breed is Chihuahua.

Besides Bella, other popular dog names include Buddy, Max, Daisy and Lucy, while the most common breeds after Chihuahua were German Shepherd, Labrador mix, pit bull and Labrador retriever.

In compiling the popular breeds and monikers for dogs, the treasurer's office also noted an uptick in the number of people licensing their dogs.

"We're glad to see more and more people getting their dogs licensed in Van Buren County – after all, it is the law," Nesbitt said. "Dog licenses provide owners with peace of mind knowing that if their pet is lost, he or she can easily be identified and returned home."

People still have time to purchase dog licenses for 2020. Dog licenses can be purchased at the Van Buren County Treasurer's Office, 219 East Paw Paw St., Suite 101. One-year and three-year licenses are available: 1-year license spayed/neutered: $10; 3-year license spayed/neutered: $30; 1-year unaltered: $20; 3-year unaltered: $60.

Licenses are also available for purchase at Van Buren County Animal Control, area veterinarian clinics and some township halls. For a complete list of locations and a license application, visit www.vbco.org/dog_license.asp, or call the Van Buren County Treasurer's office at 269-657-8228.

State law requires dog licenses to be purchased by March 1, 2020. After that date, license fees increase.

Cory Morse / The Grand Rapids Press via AP

Barbara Chance, mother of Jared Chance, who was found guilty in the 2018 slaying and dismemberment of Ashley Young, appears at the Kent County Courthouse in Grand Rapids, Mich., on Monday. She pleaded no contest to charges that she lied to police and helped her son cover up the murder of Young.

Mom pleads no contest to helping son in body parts case

GRAND RAPIDS (AP) — A mother accused of helping her son move the dismembered remains of a woman pleaded no contest Monday before a trial in western Michigan.

Barbara Chance faces up to a year in jail, Kent County Judge Paul Denenfeld said.

Chance's son, Jared Chance, was convicted in September of killing and dismembering Ashley Young. Her torso was found in December 2018 in the basement of his Grand Rapids rental home. Other remains of the 31-year-old woman haven't been found.

Barbara Chance, 64, pleaded no contest to perjury and accessory after the fact.

Investigators said Barbara Chance and her husband, James, picked up their son and drove him to their Holland home, along with boxes of body parts, a saw and cleaning products. The saw later was found under the couple's couch.

Police said Jared Chance returned to his home the next day with most of the items.

Jared Chance, 30, is serving a 100-year prison sentence. Meanwhile, jury selection started Monday in the trial of his father, James Chance, a former Rock Island, Illinois, police officer. He's charged with perjury and accessory after the fact.

Feds: Owner of Madison Heights 'ooze' site reports to prison

By JAMES DAVID DICKSON
The Detroit News

MADISON HEIGHTS — Gary Sayers, owner of the industrial site in Madison Heights that authorities believe is the source of the "ooze" that emerged from the walls of the Interstate 696 freeway, has reported to federal prison in West Virginia, according to the U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

The bureau's website lists Sayers, 70, as an inmate at Federal Correctional Institution Morgantown, which it described as "a minimum-security facility with a detention center, and a population of about 700 male inmates.

Sayers' sentence is for illegal handling of hazardous waste and he has been ordered to repay the federal government $1.5 million for the Environmental Protection Agency's initial 2017 cleanup of the site

Sayers' prison term will end on Nov. 9, according to the website.

The Morgantown facility does not have a perimeter fence, according to a 2018 audit report on its compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act. Its visiting hours are only on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

On Dec. 20, motorists spotted the ooze seeping from a wall on eastbound I-696; the Electro-Plating Services, shuttered by the state in Dec. 2016 is right above the site of the ooze. That day, a spokeswoman for the Michigan department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, declared it posed "no threat to drinking water or air quality."

Nearly 11,000 gallons of contaminated water have been collected from the former Electro-Plating Services building at 945 E. 10 Mile, EGLE said Friday.

"The owner of the building has dug a pit that was 10-by-10-feet and 5 feet deep in the basement and he was just pouring his contaminants into this earthen hole," said Jill Greenberg, a spokeswoman for the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. "While it was flushed out over time, the contaminants still leached into the soil. There's holes in the roof where water and snow got in, mixing in with the chemicals and found its way out."

The liquid was identified by the EPA as groundwater contaminated with hexavalent chromium, a cancer-causing chemical used in textile dyes, wood preservation and ink.

The condemned building is being heavily guarded to prevent people from entering, with few EPA investigators allowed in at a time to limit exposure to the chemical, officials said.

State officials now say the ooze situation can't be remediated until the building has been torn down. The city of Madison Heights is in litigation against Sayers in hopes of doing just that, and that case is slated to begin in Oakland County Circuit Court on Jan. 13. Sayers' team is seeking delays; the city wants to move forward. Arguments will be heard on adjournment on Wednesday, The News previously reported.

U.S. Postal Service worker killed in fiery crash

By MICHAEL KRANSZ
mlive.com

PLAINWELL — A U.S. Postal Service mail carrier was killed in a fiery crash Monday afternoon.

The crash was reported around 12:25 p.m. Monday on 10th Street south of Carrie Avenue about three miles north of Plainwell.

An initial investigation determined the postal worker was at a mailbox on 10th Street delivering mail from her vehicle when a southbound pickup truck struck the mail truck from behind, according to Allegan County sheriff's deputies.

Emergency responders arrived to find the postal truck fully engulfed in flames in a ditch, deputies said. It was completely destroyed by the fire.

The postal worker, a woman, was found dead in the wreckage after the flames were put out.

Investigators at this time do not believe alcohol or drugs played a part in the crash.

The pickup driver was wearing a seat belt and was uninjured. Due to the extent of damage to the mail truck, investigators could not determine whether the Postal Service worker was wearing a seat belt.

Deputies say they will release the woman's identity at a later time.

MINISTER

From page A3

Scott is a dual graduate of Virginia Union University of Richmond, Va., where he received a bachelor of arts degree in religion and philosophy and a master of divinity degree. He went on to earn a doctorate degree in leadership and preaching from the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He also has an associate of applied science degree in mortuary science from John Tyler Community College in Chester, Va., and is a licensed mortician in the states of Michigan, Indiana and Virginia.

Covert's tribute to King will also include music, food and fellowship, and is sponsored by Covert Public Schools, the Ministerial Alliance of Covert and Vicinity, Thread of Hope Records After School Program and Van Buren United Civic Organization.

Target suffers rash of robberies in Michigan

By RILEY MURDOCK
mlive.com

SAGINAW — A group of thieves made off with nearly $5,000 worth of iPhones and iPads after breaking in to a Target store in Kochville Township, Saginaw County Sheriff William Federspiel said in a press conference Monday.

The thieves remained at large as of 3 p.m. Monday.

Police say at roughly 4 a.m. Sunday, a group of at least three suspects entered the store, located at 2772 Tittabawassee Road, using a large rock to smash two sets of glass doors. Police responded within four minutes of receiving the dispatch call, but the thieves had already fled by the time officers arrived.

The suspects fled the scene in a black SUV. They all wore masks and gloves, so the sheriff's department does not have any identifying information at this time, Federspiel said.

"They knew exactly what they were doing," Federspiel said. "They knew what they wanted to do, and they were in and out quickly."

The department is working with Target to review the store's security footage, but gaining access is a process, Federspiel said. The department is asking if anyone in the community has information about the break-in to come forward.

"We're not going to be able to get any fingerprints if they're wearing gloves," Federspiel said. "The rock they used could've been from anywhere. It's really unknown at this point."

The incident shares similarities with a string of recent burglaries at other Target locations throughout Michigan, including Brighton, Woodhaven, Allen Park and Dearborn. The department is working with other police agencies to determine if the incidents are linked.

"Right now, we're not sure," Federspiel said. "However, we're going to keep working with every outside agency that we can."

Federspiel encouraged residents to be wary of potentially stolen goods when shopping on online marketplaces: If a deal is too good to be true, it probably isn't, he said.

IN BRIEF

Niles pot shop gets recreational license

NILES — The first recreational marijuana business in Southwest Michigan will open soon.

The ReLeaf Center for Compassionate Care, at 1840 Terminal Road, Niles, was licensed by the state Monday to sell recreational marijuana, according to the state licensing website. The license is good through Jan. 6, 2021.

The business, where marijuana and marijuana-infused products are sold, wrote on Facebook on Monday that it is "hoping to be open for recreational sales by the beginning of February."

The ReLeaf Center, as it goes by, opened for medical marijuana sales in late October 2019. It was the first such shop open in Niles.

Medical marijuana facilities were the first facilities allowed to apply for recreational licenses.

Van Buren sherriff investigating car break-ins

BLOOMINGDALE — Five unlocked vehicles were entered over the weekend in the Bloomingdale Township area, police say.

The Van Buren County Sherriff's Office reported in a news release it is currently investigating multiple car larcenies from various locations overnight on Saturday and Sunday.

All five vehicles were left unattended and unlocked.

Deputies would like to remind people to keep their vehicles locked and remove all valuable items.

Anyone with information about the car break ins are asked to contact the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office at 657-3101, Crime Stoppers at 1-800-342-7867, Silent Observer 269-343-2100 or your local police department.

I-94 brush removal starts today in Van buren County

Work is beginning this week on a three-year project to remove dead trees and overgrown brush along Interstate 94 in Van Buren County.

The work is expected to start today and be completed by May 31, 2023, according to a news release from the Michigan Department of Transportation.

"Essentially the project will take place along the I-94 corridor in Van Buren County over the next three construction seasons," said Nick Schirripa, communications representative for MDOT's Southwest Region in Kalamazoo.

While the work takes place there will be intermittent lane and shoulder closures. Once the deed trees and overgrown shrubs have been removed, new pine trees will be planted as a wind screen for the freeway.

COUNCIL

From page A3

In other matters, the council got a report from Wightman, its engineering consultant, about tests on the village's sewer lines.

Engineer Mary Nykamp said the village's sewer lagoons are operating well, but tests show the "loading" of materials in sewage going into the lagoons is higher than it should be. She said Wightman will discuss the report with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, which will likely ask for another round of tests to confirm the results.

There is no obvious place where too many materials are going into the system, Nykamp said. "We certainly don't have a single point user that's the culprit," said Steve Carlisle, also a Wightman engineer.

U.S. to start collecting DNA from people detained at border

By NOMAAN MERCHANT
Associated Press

HOUSTON — The U.S. government on Monday launched a pilot program to collect DNA from people in immigration custody and submit it to the FBI, with plans to expand nationwide.

The information would go into a massive criminal database run by the FBI, where it would be held indefinitely. A memo outlining the program published Monday by the Department of Homeland Security said U.S. citizens and permanent residents holding a "green card" who are detained could be subject to DNA testing, as well as asylum seekers and people entering the country without authorization. Refusing to submit DNA could lead to a misdemeanor criminal charge, the document said.

President Donald Trump's administration announced last year it would seek to expand its use of biometrics to stop migrant adults from bringing children and falsely posing as parents. Whistleblowers had also complained U.S. Customs and Border Protection was violating federal law that requires agencies to collect DNA from people they arrest or detain.

Immigrant advocates and privacy experts have raised alarms and questioned whether data collected to stop criminal activity could instead be used for surveillance.

The DHS memo acknowledged that the DNA its agents collect may not be immediately useful. Agents plan to take saliva swabs of detained people, then mail them to the FBI. By the time the results are processed, the memo said, the people in question may have already been released, deported or transferred to another federal agency.

Stephen Kang, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, questioned whether the U.S. was creating "a DNA bank of immigrants that have come through custody for no clear reason."

"It raises a lot of very serious, practical concerns, I think, and real questions about coercion," Kang said.

Starting Monday, CBP will collect swabs from people apprehended by the U.S. Border Patrol at the Canadian border in or near Detroit, as well as people detained at the official port of entry at Eagle Pass, Texas, across from Piedras Negras, Mexico. CBP said its pilot program will last 90 days. In Detroit, people as young as 14 will be subject to DNA collection.

The memo said agents will not take DNA from people entering the country legally or being held for further screening without being placed into detention.

CBP has wrongly accused American citizens in the past of entering the country illegally. An 18-year-old born in Texas was held for more than three weeks last year.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which is currently holding more than 40,000 people in medium- or long-term detention, will designate one of its jails for pilot testing.

Both ICE and CBP will eventually expand their data collection nationally, according to the memo.

A top Border Patrol official last year warned that expanding DNA collection could hurt the orderly processing of migrants.

"Even once such policies and procedures were put in place, Border Patrol Agents are not currently trained on DNA collection measures, health and safety precautions, or the appropriate handling of DNA samples for processing," wrote Brian Hastings, chief of the Border Patrol's law enforcement directorate.

The DHS memo published Monday said the FBI will provide a training video.

5.8 magnitude quake strikes Puerto Rico, damaging homes

By DÁNICA COTO
Associated Press

Carlos Giusti / AP

Governor Wanda Vazquez inspect an earthquake-damaged house in Guanica, Puerto Rico, on Monday. A 5.8-magnitude quake hit Puerto Rico before dawn, unleashing small landslides, causing power outages and severely cracking some homes.

GUANICA, Puerto Rico — A 5.8 magnitude quake hit Puerto Rico before dawn Monday, unleashing small landslides, causing power outages and collapsing some homes, as well as a famed tourist attraction. It was one of the strongest quakes yet in a series that have hit the U.S. territory over the past week.

There were no immediate reports of casualties.

The quake was followed by a string of smaller temblors, including one measured at magnitude 5 that struck at 10:51 a.m., shaking power lines and frightening residents of southern Puerto Rico who had been waiting outside their homes due to fears the buildings were damaged and unstable.

The first quake struck at 6:32 a.m. just south of the island at a relatively shallow depth of 6 miles, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

The shake collapsed a coastal rock formation that had formed a sort of rounded window, Punta Ventana, that was a popular tourist draw in the southwest town of Guayanilla.

In the southern town of Guanica, Mayor Santos Seda told The Associated Press that five homes collapsed, but only one of them was inhabited. No injuries had been reported.

Another 29 homes were heavily damaged and about to collapse, he said.

Helicopters buzzed overhead and terrified residents jumped up from their folding chairs every time the earth shook, yelling at others to stay away from power lines.

Few people dared go back inside their homes, but José Quiñones, 54, had no choice. His 80-year-old mother had heart problems and was lying in bed.

Dozens of people in a neighborhood called Hope in Guanica walked around with their phones and yelled out the magnitude of the latest earthquakes as they tried to calm children who were forced to open the presents they'd received for Three Kings Day, a religious holiday, on streets and sidewalks.

People in the working-class neighborhood shared soda and snacks as they sought shelter from a harsh sun, careful to stay away from homes whose columns and foundations were heavily cracked.

Many already had bags packed in their cars with a change of clothes, food, water and medicine.

Puerto Rico doesn't have a public earthquake warning system, except for sirens that are supposed to ring in case of a tsunami. Residents in this neighborhood criticized the government for what they believe is a lack of action.

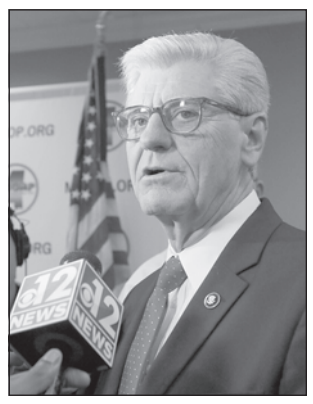
Dr. Sindia Alvarado, who lives in the southern coastal town of Penuelas, said she was petrified.

"My entire family woke up screaming," she said. "I though the house was going to crack in half."

The flurry of quakes in Puerto Rico's southern region began the night of Dec. 28, with quakes ranging in magnitude from 4.7 to 5.1. Previous quakes of lesser magnitudes in recent days have cracked homes and knocked goods off supermarket shelves.

Foretold 'uprising' hits Mississippi prisons starved for cash

By JEFF AMY and EMILY WAGSTER PETTUS
Associated Press



Rogelio V. Solis / AP

Gov. Phil Bryant discusses with reporters, his concerns about the recent violence at the state penitentiary in Parchman in Jackson, Miss., on Monday.

JACKSON, Miss. — The leader of Mississippi's underfunded prison system was pleading with lawmakers for money to hire more guards and pay them better in 2012 when he warned, "I see trouble down the road."

Christopher Epps, a longtime Mississippi Department of Corrections employee, would later go to prison himself for collecting $1.4 million in bribes. But during budget hearings in October 2012, he said keeping salaries for guards the lowest in the nation would only work "as long as we don't have an uprising."

The uprising arrived last week when five inmates died at the hands of fellow prisoners and two of the state's largest prisons were rocked by what corrections officials called "major disturbances" between gangs. Some observers called them riots.

Prison spokeswoman Grace Simmons Fisher said Monday she's "still awaiting verification" of how many prisoners have been injured, and officials haven't answered many other questions. Southern Poverty Law Center spokeswoman Jen Fuson said attorneys who requested to visit their clients on Tuesday at Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman were told visits might be allowed Friday.

Now, with a new governor's inauguration looming and a new prison chief to be selected, Mississippi leaders face choices. They could pump tens of millions more dollars into a prison budget that already strains finances in the nation's poorest state. They could try to resume stalled progress toward letting out inmates in a state with one of the world's highest incarceration rates. Or they could try to put a Band-Aid on the current crisis and keep locking people up without spending more money.

Phil Bryant, Mississippi's outgoing governor, on Monday blamed gangs operating inside the prison system, saying prisons are difficult to manage "under the best of circumstances." He spoke specifically about the infamous Parchman.

"Someone asked earlier, who's responsible for what's happening at Parchman? The inmates," Bryant told reporters. "The inmates are the ones that take each other's lives. The inmates are the ones that fashion weapons out of metal."

But others say keeping prisoners safe is the state's responsibility.

After violence Thursday, guards and state troopers marched some prisoners at Parchman into Unit 32, a cell block closed in 2011 as part of a lawsuit settlement. In July 2007, the American Civil Liberties Union told a federal judge that Unit 32's living conditions were "as bad as anywhere in the country."

Bryant, a Republican who leaves office Jan. 14, said Monday that "inmates' needs are being met" with adequate food, bottled water and prescription medicine as needed.

In addition to state troopers and sheriff's deputies, Mississippi got help from Tennessee in the crisis. Dorinda Carter, spokeswoman for the Tennessee Department of Corrections aid 14 members of its special operations tactical unit were sent Sunday to assist at Mississippi's request.

Two prisoners escaped from Parchman during the disturbance. Both have been recaptured. Dillion Willams was caught Monday in a wooded area near Rossville, Tennessee, by officers from multiple agencies.

Statistics reveal stress at the three prisons directly run by the state. At Parchman, Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Pearl and South Mississippi Correctional Institution in Leakesville, only about half of security posts were filled in the budget year ending June 30, 2019, according to documents the Corrections Department submitted last summer to budget writers. More than 1,000 times, prison employees had to work a double shift because there was no one to take their place.

While Mississippi provides plenty of inmate alcohol and drug rehabilitation opportunities, prisons remain rife with drugs. At Central Mississippi, which in part takes in prisoners just sentenced, 72 percent of tests showed drugs. At South Mississippi, 30 percent of drug tests came back positive.

Drugs and violence at prisons that were supposed to be locked down raise questions about whether guards are involved. Some low-paid guards have been indicted for smuggling illegal drugs and cellphones to inmates. Bribes to guards may come from money extorted from prisoners' families. Past reports have shown relatives sending cash cards after imprisoned kin were threatened.

"When they're on lockdown, if they can't keep people safe, we've got some administrative issues," said Scott Colom, a district attorney in northeast Mississippi.

Mississippi's current corrections commissioner, Pelicia Hall, has repeatedly told legislators prisons are understaffed. State corrections officials are seeking an additional $67 million at the three state-run prisons.

Civil rights groups demand answers after Iranian-Americans say they were detained

By GENE JOHNSON
Associated Press

Elaine Thompson / AP

Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., left, looks on as Negah Hekmati speaks about her hours-long delay returning to the U.S. from Canada with her family days earlier, at a news conference in Seattle on Monday.

SEATTLE — Civil rights groups and lawmakers demanded information from federal officials Monday following reports that dozens of Iranian-Americans were held up and questioned at the border as they returned to the United States from Canada over the weekend.

The Washington state chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations said more than 60 Iranians and Iranian-Americans were detained and questioned for hours at the Peace Arch Border Crossing in Blaine, Washington. The delays followed security warnings that Iran might retaliate for President Donald Trump's decision to kill a top Iranian general last week.

Some of the travelers were returning from a concert by an Iranian pop star in Vancouver, British Columbia, on Saturday night, while others had been vacationing or visiting relatives over the holidays.

Unusual delays in clearing travelers of Iranian descent continued until Sunday afternoon but appeared to have ended by Monday, the civil rights groups said. It was not immediately clear if travelers had been similarly delayed elsewhere.

Border agents typically have discretion to refer a traveler for additional inspection, such as when a traveler's paperwork is not in order or if something raises the agent's suspicion. But immigrant rights groups and lawmakers said singling out Iranian-Americans absent such factors was wrong and violated their right to equal protection under the law.

Negah Hekmati, 38, told a news conference at the Seattle office of U.S. Rep. Pramila Jayapal on Monday that she and her husband were detained, along with their 8-year-old son and 5-year-old daughter, from midnight to 5 a.m. Sunday as they returned from a ski trip. They are all U.S. citizens, though she and her husband were born in Iran.

The family is in the NEXUS program – an expedited border-crossing program for low-risk travelers – and visits relatives in Canada about once a month, she said. They had never previously been detained for so long.

"My daughter was telling me, 'Please don't speak Farsi. Maybe if you don't speak Farsi they won't take you,'" said Hekmati. "This is not OK."

Border guards took their passports, NEXUS cards and car keys, she said. They questioned her about her parents, her education and her Facebook and email accounts, she said, and asked her husband about the military service he was required to perform in Iran as a young man.

Another family they were traveling with was similarly detained, and they said they saw about two dozen other families – all of Iranian descent – in the same waiting area, Hekmati said. Only one white family passed through the area while they were there, she said, and that family was allowed to leave within minutes.

Michael Friel, a spokesman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, said reports that Iranian-Americans were detained or refused entry because of where they were born were not true.

"Based on the current threat environment, CBP is operating with an enhanced posture at its ports of entry to safeguard our national security and protect the America people while simultaneously protecting the civil rights and liberties of everyone," he said in a statement.

He said border wait times increased to an average of two hours Saturday evening at Blaine, Washington, because of increased traffic and reduced staffing because of the holiday season.

Jayapal and others rejected the assertion that low staffing levels had anything to do with the singling out of Iranian or Iranian-American families. She suggested the Department of Homeland Security, which includes Customs and Border Protection, was lying.

"DHS was the same agency that denied family separations were happening" on the southern border, she noted.

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Coming soon to a theater near you

Kathleen Parker

It did have a wag-the-dog feel to it, a cynic might say.

With the Senate discussing plans for President Trump's (albeit uncertain) impeachment trial, the U.S. commander in chief ordered the killing of Iran's top security and intelligence commander, Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani, at Baghdad International airport.

By most accounts, he deserved to die. He had American blood on his hands and was behind Iran's deadly clandestine operations abroad. "However ...," said nearly every so-called expert snagged by American news programs to comment on a variety of hypotheticals related to Iran.

Speculation was wild as a spring break: What would happen next? Would Iran, which promised revenge, attack Israel? Would Iranian citizens feel emboldened and demand regime change? Does the United States remove a sitting president so soon after what some have called an act of war?

In the 1997 movie "Wag the Dog," the U.S. president manufactured a faux war in Albania to distract from a sex scandal just two weeks before his likely reelection. A spin doctor engaged to help manage the mess accurately predicted that the media would focus entirely on the war, forgetting all about that other inconvenience. And, *voila*.

Coincidentally, the comedy appeared in theaters just months before then-President Clinton, enmeshed in a sex scandal of his own, sent 14 cruise missiles to pulverize the Al Shifa pharmaceutical factory in Khartoum, Sudan, on a day that Monica Lewinsky testified before a grand jury. Talk about the tail wagging the dog. Or, rather, should I say, nature imitating art? Clinton's attack reportedly was in response to al-Qaida's bombing of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

Needless to say, there's nothing humorous about what transpired last week in Baghdad. According to Defense Secretary Mark Esper, Soleimani "was actively developing plans to attack American diplomats and service members in Iraq and throughout the region."

Intelligence sources helped pinpoint Soleimani's location. As military actions go, the killing of Soleimani was one for the textbooks. One may also find consolation in the fact that American intelligence gathering has apparently improved dramatically since the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, which was based on bad, if widely believed, information.

What's clear is that Soleimani, commander of Iran's elite Quds Force, had been instrumental in attacks against Americans and our allies for years. Given such, why wouldn't U.S. policy be to remove him as soon as possible? Removal of bad actors is often folded into policies, such as the stated goal adopted during the Clinton administration of ousting Saddam Hussein.

Certainly, decisions of when and where are tethered to legalities and congressional oversight, depending on circumstances, as well as international considerations. The attacks of 9/11 provided an excuse to invade Iraq, to put it bluntly, under the umbrella of President George W. Bush's fiat that our enemies thereafter would include any country that aided terrorism or sought weapons of mass destruction. The so-called "axis of evil," of course, included Iran.

Thus, given Trump's withdrawal from the Iran nuclear agreement – and his cage-rattling foreign policy – Soleimani's death probably shouldn't come as a surprise. A worthy speculation is: Why did it take so long?

It is disturbing, nonetheless, to consider that Trump might have been prompted to act for reasons other than the nation's best interest – such as his being mocked by Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. On Wednesday, two days before the airstrike that killed Soleimani, Khamenei wrote this on Twitter:

"(Trump) has tweeted that we see Iran responsible for the events in Baghdad & we will respond to Iran. 1st: You can't do anything. 2nd: If you were logical – which you're not – you'd see that your crimes in Iraq, Afghanistan ... have made nations hate you."

First, Trump could do something and he certainly did. Second, be that as it may, some would argue that religious statehood defies reason.

Reactions around the world will be interesting to observe, if not very surprising. More testosterone-venting; more pistol-cocking; more threats, taunts and, yes, probably, violence. Here at home, partisans brawled and bloviated as expected:

"(The) Trump Admin owes a full explanation of airstrike reports," tweeted Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., chimed in, "To the Iranian government: if you want more, you will get more."

Were we not entertaining the possibility of military mayhem, such Twitter-posturing would send comedy writers scurrying to their keyboards. Then again, maybe first drafts have already arrived in agents' inboxes. If America loves anything more than a good war, it's a sequel – but preferably on the big screen served with dark humor and a side of popcorn.

Kathleen Parker is a columnist for The Washington Post.

Trump's Orwellian doublespeak on Iran

Doyle McManus

The U.S. missile strike that killed Iranian Quds Force leader Qassem Soleimani was a stunning escalation of the conflict between the United States and Iran – an act of open war in a struggle that has been carried out in the shadows for decades.

Yet President Donald Trump and his aides oddly called the airstrike a "deescalation," as if it were a step toward peace.

"We took action last night to stop a war. We did not take action to start a war," the president told supporters Friday.

It sounds like Orwellian doublespeak – an attempt to deny that killing a senior Iranian official ratcheted up hostilities by claiming the opposite.

Trump aides offered a convoluted explanation: Because Soleimani was working on plots against the United States, they said, killing him would impede those attacks – and thus "deescalate" the conflict, at least temporarily.

But that's not deescalation; it's preemption.

Still, there's one way the term "deescalation" does apply. Trump and his aides appear to be using a tactic borrowed from nuclear weapons strategy – a gambit called "escalate to deescalate."

The idea is that if you shock your adversaries with a sudden, violent attack, they may back down from action you want to deter.

But it's a high-risk gamble. If the other side backs down, you win. If the other side retaliates and unleashes another round of escalation, the conflict can spiral out of control.

In nuclear strategy, both the United States and Russia have decided that "escalate to deescalate" – launching a small nuclear attack to deter a larger one – is a dangerous idea, because a miscalculation could be catastrophic.

A miscalculation with Iran could be catastrophic too, if it leads to a wider war.

Trump has used "escalate to deescalate" before, in his confrontation with North Korea.

In 2017, he was determined to stop North Korea from expanding its arsenal of nuclear weapons.

If Kim Jong Un continued threatening the United States, Trump warned, he would face "fire and fury … the likes of which this world has never seen before."

It looked and sounded like a cycle of escalation that could lead to nuclear war.

As tensions spiked, Kim proposed a summit meeting with Trump and announced a suspension of nuclear tests as a sign of goodwill. The two leaders met in Singapore and agreed to work toward "denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula."

Two years later, the process appears stalemated; North Korea is still building nuclear weapons and missiles, and Kim made new threats last week. So Trump's main objective hasn't been met – but the level of tension is lower.

A diplomatic opening was possible because there was an offramp: Trump halted joint military exercises with South Korea and offered Kim reduced economic sanctions in return for clear moves toward denuclearization.

The process hasn't succeeded, but at least the two sides are talking.

The Trump administration has offered no such offramp to Iran – unless you count the long list of demands Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo has made of Tehran, ranging from an end to nuclear and missile development to wholesale changes in Iranian foreign and domestic policy.

The Trump administration has frequently offered to open talks with Iran, and it renewed those offers on Friday. But Trump has never offered Tehran anything as appealing as the menu he put before Kim.

Instead, Pompeo and other U.S. officials have often used language that sounds to Iranians as if the Trump administration is seeking regime change in Tehran.

And there's an emotional element: Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, has promised to seek revenge for the killing of his most important military official.

All those factors make it likely that we will see retaliation from Iran – and escalation instead of deescalation.

Iran's retaliation could include attacks on oil refineries or tankers, or other U.S. interests by proxy forces in other countries. It could be a covert attack on an American general or other senior official in the Middle East. It could involve cyberattacks on U.S. financial institutions or other infrastructure.

But it's almost certain to include a form of what might be called "strategic retaliation": a carefully planned campaign, in the wake of Soleimani's killing, to persuade Iraq's parliament to expel U.S. forces from their country. Many Iraqis are outraged that the U.S. killed a senior Iranian official on their soil.

They could force the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad to close, a humiliating setback for the United States – especially given the immense U.S. sacrifice in lives and dollars in Iraq since 2003. Worse, it would make Iraq a virtual satellite of Iran – a huge strategic win for Tehran.

It would also illustrate the biggest mismatch between the United States and Iran: We have more money and more military power – but they appear to have a clearer strategy and more patience.

Trump and Pompeo have defined their policy toward Iran as "maximum pressure." But without a clear goal and a plan to achieve it, that isn't a strategy; it's only a tactic.

The president's goal, he says, is to get the United States out of the Middle East. The targeted killing of Soleimani risks pulling us deeper in.

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

Email: letters@TheHP.com

Regular mail: Editorial Page, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Fax: 269-429-4398

All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. The Herald-Palladium reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, grammar, inappropriate content and libel. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Enemies – or fellow citizens?

E.J. Dionne

We often hear that both sides of politics benefit equally from polarization. This is plainly untrue.

Say what you will about President Trump, but he knows there's only one way he can prevail. He needs to keep the nation deeply divided – by race, immigration status and religion and by region, culture and ideology.

Trump's rants seem – and often are – irrational, undisciplined and self-indulgent. But they are also shrewd and purposeful.

He accepts that he has permanently lost large parts of the country. But, given our Electoral College, he knows he doesn't have to win a plurality of the popular vote. He needs only tiny margins in swing states, and these require overwhelming support from whites, Christians, older Americans and people in small cities and rural areas.

He needs them to believe that he's their champion and that his enemies – liberals and "socialists," big city folk and the "politically correct," the secular and the culturally adventurous – truly hate them. If keeping that level of hostility high requires direct and indirect appeals to racism and xenophobia, he's good with that.

If polarization helps Trump, then the opposite follows for progressives. They win only with coalitions that cross the lines of race, place and faith. Democratic candidates need strong support and turnout from African Americans, Latinos and city-dwellers. But they cannot prevail in swing states without help from blue-collar and non-college whites.

Moreover, the left and center-left believe that public action is a positive good, that social solidarity is a realistic possibility, and that a society thrives when it shares benefits and burdens equitably. When we live in our bunkers of hatred, none of these dispositions has a chance.

It's thus a big mistake for progressives to think that their own form of "base politics" is sufficient, and one politician who firmly grasps this is Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio. He has a lot to teach this year's Democratic presidential candidates, and he gathered his thoughts in his delightful book, "Desk 88," published last year.

Brown tells the stories of eight progressive senators who used the desk on the Senate floor that is now his own. They included, among other historic figures, Al Gore Sr., Robert F. Kennedy, George McGovern, and future Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black.

But most revealing is Brown's analysis of his 2018 reelection by 7 points in a state Trump carried by 8. Rather than crow about his success in urban areas and college towns, he focuses on where he failed: "We lost medium-sized industrial city after medium-sized industrial city, small town after small town, rural community after rural community. Pretty much all of them."

"Rural and small town voters don't think either party is going to do anything for them, but they vote Republican because they think Democrats will do something *to* them: take their guns or raise their taxes, or enact an environmental law that will put them out of work," he writes.

Bear in mind that Brown is no bland centrist. He's a down-the-line progressive who campaigns hard for African American votes and speaks of linking labor rights to civil rights. His ideology, however, does not block his capacity for empathy. "I will never be one," he writes, "who says that people in rural or small-town America vote against their own interest; who am I to say what is their self-interest? But we as progressives have work to do."

It's work essential not only to winning elections but also to creating a more humane and cohesive country.

I particularly appreciated Brown's chapter on Kennedy, a politician known for his toughness but also, as his biographer Jack Newfield wrote, for his "almost literary ability to put himself inside other people, to see the world with the eyes of its casualties."

Brown quotes these stunning words from Kennedy's speech to the City Club of Cleveland during his 1968 presidential campaign, the day after Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated:

"When you teach a man to hate and fear his brother," Kennedy said, "when you teach that he is a lesser man because of his color or his beliefs or the policies he pursues, when you teach that those who differ from you threaten your freedom or your job or your family, then you also learn to confront others not as fellow citizens, but as enemies – to be met not with cooperation but with conquest, to be subjugated and mastered."

This is politics in the Age of Trump. We cannot let things go on this way.

E.J. Dionne is a columnist for The Washington Post.

OBITUARIES

Norman Lee Doyle

Norman Lee Doyle, 60, of Ionia, Mich., passed away Dec. 31, 2019.

TACKET

He was born in Berrien Springs on Feb. 20, 1959, the son of Herbert and Mildred (Thompson) Scott Jr. Norman graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1978, where he was captain of the wrestling team, played football and after graduation served three tours of duty in the Marines, including Grenada Operation Urgent Fury, as well as winning boxing titles. He received several military medals for his service. He held associate and bachelor's degrees in business administration from Cleary College. He enjoyed cooking, fishing and dancing. He was a kind, loving person with a good sense of humor.

He leaves to cherish his memory his son, Emmanuel Whitley of Ann Arbor, Mich.; daughter, Claranda Barnes of Vernon Hills, Ill.; grandson, Jauron Jackson II; siblings: Chelly Doyle of Lansing, Mich., Tonya Doyle (Bicy) of Holt, Mich., Robert (Samantha)Thompson of Benton Harbor and Randy (Debra) Thompson of Radcliff, Ky.; nieces and nephews: Nichola Doyle, Bryan Ealey, Joy and Justin Bicy, Jasmine and William Thompson, Ebony Owens and several others and greats; and the love of his life, Jeanne Hyatt.

He was preceded in death by his parents, elder brother and sister.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 11, at Lake Funeral Home in Ionia, with visitation one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Interment will be in Letts Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.lakefuneralhomes.com.

Joseph 'Joe' Swetay

Joseph "Joe" Swetay, 75, of Covert Township died Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020, at Bronson Methodist Hospital, Kalamazoo.

SWETAY

Services celebrating his life will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, at Red Arrow General Baptist Church, with the Rev. Rich Kiser officiating. Burial will follow in North Shore Memory Gardens. The visitation will be held from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday at the Davidson Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Coloma. Memorials maybe made to the family in his name. Please share messages, memories or photos at www.florin.net.

Joe was born on March 20, 1944, in South Haven, to Joseph and Grace Swetay. He married his wife, Sharon Annette, in 1971, and together they celebrated 48 years of marriage. Joe was employed at Menasha Corp for 36 years before retiring in 2003. He was a member of Red Arrow General Baptist Church. Joe was an avid bowler for over 50 years and enjoyed hunting and fishing. He also loved the Detroit Tigers and the Detroit Lions. Most of all, Joe loved being with his family.

His family includes his wife, Sharon Annette; his children, Adella (Randy) Wells of Coloma and Josh (Starla) Swetay of Watervliet; his sister, Shirley Somers of Hartford; his brother, Donald Swetay of Kalamazoo; his grandchildren, Alanna, Skylar, Jonathan, Heavyn, Randy Jr. (Kayla) and Breanna; and his great-grandchildren, Addison, Jace and Derrick.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Alfred.

Thomas Ham Ross

Thomas Ham Ross, 94, formerly of Benton Harbor passed away Dec. 30, 2019, in the comfort of his home.

ROSS

Thomas was born March 10, 1925, to Mattie and Greenberry Ross in Cleveland, Ark. He enjoyed fishing, traveling and visiting with family. He was also a veteran of the United States Army.

Thomas is survived his daughters, Thomas E. McKenzie and Egene Ross; sister, Mildred Cooper; brother, Cleo Ross; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Thomas was proceed in death by his parents; wife, Hessie Ross; daughter, Selma Ross; niece, Diana Ross; three brothers; and three sisters.

A service will be held at noon Saturday, Jan. 11, at Second Baptist Church, 230 W. 14th St., Anderson, Ind., with eulogy by the Rev. William O'Neal. Burial will be in Marion National Cemetery.

Timothy E. McClernan

Timothy "Tim" Edward McClernan, 56, retired Sgt., U.S. Army Reserves, of Stevensville passed away on Jan. 4, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center.

Tim was born, the second of five boys, on Jan. 16, 1963, in Duluth, Minn., to Charles and Patricia (Bubacz) McClernan.

Tim is survived by his brothers, Terry (Roni) McClernan and Scott (Kim) McClernan; children, Tim (Missy) McClernan, Amy (Donald) Bosworth, Patty (Bill) Woods and Aaleyah McClernan; grandchildren: Lee Philips, Trinity McClernan, Clair Mottl, Lea and Ayden Bosworth and Emma and Brody Woods; and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his mother and father, Patricia and Charles McClernan; and his brothers, James McClernan Sr. and Johnny McClernan.

A memorial service is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9, at New Life Church, located at 3265 S. Cleveland Road, St Joseph, with a reception to follow at the church. Pastor Brian Rumer will officiate.

Karen Marie Smith-Paraf

Karen Marie Smith-Paraf, 63, of Sawyer died Friday, Jan. 3, 2020, in the presence of her family.

SMITH-PARAF

Karen was born March 16, 1956, in Chicago, to Christy "Chris" and Olga Rigoni. She married Corey Paraf on Feb. 23, 2007, in Cook County, Ill.

Karen was an amazing woman who truly loved her family and friends, and always put them above herself. Her smile lit up rooms and she spread love and laughter with everyone she encountered. Karen will be greatly missed by her loved ones, but her spirit will live on in each of them.

Karen is survived by her husband of 12 years, Corey Paraf of Sawyer; one daughter, Krystal (Dan) Smith-Rettich of Justice, Ill.; one son, Donald (Marylin Winkle) Smith of Los Angeles; one grandson, Abraham; twin granddaughters, Penelope and Willow; one sister, Rea Pietras of Chicago; and one cousin, Martha "Cookie" (Ray) Nelson of South Haven.

The family prefers contributions be made in memory of Karen to the veterans organization of your choice. Arrangements have been entrusted to Pobocik Chapel, Wagner Family Funerals, Three Oaks. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

Virgil Tacket

Virgil Tacket, 96, of Berrien Springs, fell asleep in Jesus during the early hours of the new year, 2020.

"Chuck" was born March 26, 1923, in Hollister, Wis., the eighth child of Minnie and Hiram Tacket. In addition to working on the farm, he graduated from White Lake High School in 1942, and was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943, where he served proudly as a staff sergeant. In 1955 he earned his B.A. degree in accounting from Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in Berrien Springs. During his time in college, he married the love of his life, Phylis Servi, on June 17, 1951.

Chuck found his true calling as a custom home builder, working with his partner, Paul Cress, to build over 155 area homes. He was one of the founders of the Berrien County Home Builders Association and served as treasurer. He loved building and took great pride in the quality and honesty of his work. As an active member of Pioneer Memorial Church, he served as an elder, a member of the church board for 25 years and on the finance committee.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Phylis; two children, Douglas (Tracy) and Judy; five grandchildren: Kaitlin Ball, Whitney Tacket, Jordan Oakley, Shane Oakley and Cheyenne Oakley; and three great-grandchildren.

Chuck loved his family, his friends and his church. He will be missed by many.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12, at Pioneer Memorial Church on the campus of Andrews University, with visitation at 2 p.m. Memorial contributions can be made to Your Story Hour in Berrien Springs. Online messages: www.allredfuneralhome.com.

Death notices

Norman L. Doyle, 60, of Ionia, Mich., formerly of Benton Harbor died Dec. 31, 2019. Lake Funeral Home, Ionia, (616) 527-0099.

Martin W. Emery, 68, of Stevensville died Nov. 29, 2019, at home. Pike Funeral Home, Boyd Chapel, Bridgman, 465-3239.

Martha A. Hamilton, 94, of Dowagiac died Jan. 4, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, Niles. Clark Chapel and Cremation Services, Dowagiac, 782-2135.

Timothy E. McClernan, 56, of Stevensville died Jan. 4, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center, Stevensville. Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremation Services, Benton Harbor, 926-9440.

Sam Schaafsma, 88, of Paw Paw died Jan. 3, 2020, in Kalamazoo. Betzler & Thompson Life Story Funeral Home, Paw Paw, 657-3870.

Joseph "Joe" Swetay, 75, of Covert Township died Jan. 4, 2020, at Bronson Methodist Hospital, Kalamazoo. Davidson Chapel, Florin Funeral Service, Coloma, 468-3181.

Virgil Tacket, 96, of Berrien Springs died Jan. 1, 2020, at home. Allred Funeral Home, Berrien Springs, 471-3729.

Morgana Towns, 39, of Niles died Jan. 5, 2020. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Niles, 6833-1155.

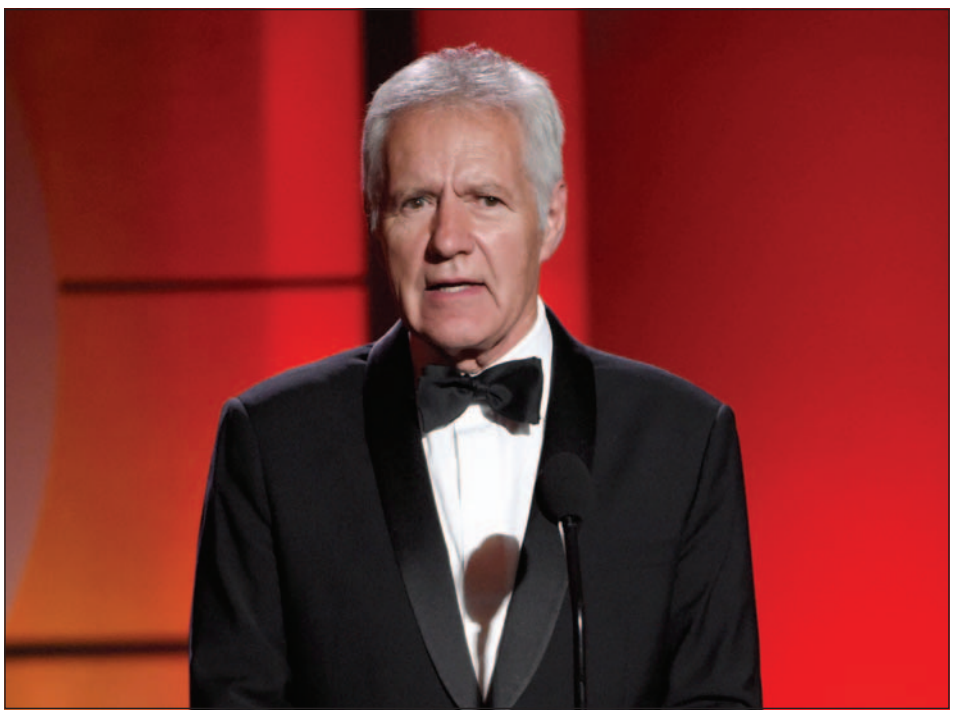
Alex Trebek to Rep. John Lewis: Let's survive cancer in 2020

By LYNN ELBER
AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES — Alex Trebek has a message of support for Congressman John Lewis as both fight pancreatic cancer.

"We're starting a new year, and let's see if we can't both complete the year as pancreatic cancer survivors," Trebek said when asked what he would tell Lewis. He noted they're the same age, 79.

The Georgia Democrat and veteran civil rights leader announced his diagnosis of advanced cancer in late December. In making his announcement, Lewis made clear that he has no plans to step aside and said, "I have a fighting chance."


Chris Pizzello / Invision / AP

Alex Trebek speaks at the 44th annual Daytime Emmy Awards at the Pasadena Civic Center in Pasadena, Calif., on April 30, 2017. Trebek says he's already rehearsed what he's going to say to the audience on his final show. Trebek, host of the popular game show since 1984, announced last March that he'd been diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer but will continue his job while still able. In an interview on ABC-TV broadcast Thursday, Trebek said he'll ask the director to leave him 30 seconds at the end of his last taping.

Trebek made his illness public last March and has shared his progress and setbacks.

The "Jeopardy!" host struck a resolute but realistic tone in discussing the disease, including its toll, during during last month's taping of a prime-time special, "Jeopardy! The Greatest of All Time," with top contestants Ken Jennings, Brad Rutter and James Holzhauer, The contest begins airing Tuesday on ABC.

Trebek recalled mentioning to a series producer that he was "struggling a bit" on stage, but was assured that nobody noticed.

"I said, 'Well, I noticed," said the typically precise host, who has been part of "Jeopardy!" since 1984.

Trebek has had good days and bad while undergoing treatment, but his on-camera performance doesn't falter, said Jennings, who first competed on the show 15 years ago.

"The chemo is rough, but he can always just turn it on," Jennings said. "The music came on, the lights came on, he would just stride out there and nail that show like nobody else. It was exciting to see him doing so well and taking that diagnosis so bravely. To me, he's the last of that kind of old-school broadcasters, and it's such a pleasure to watch."

Rutter, who first played on "Jeopardy!" nearly 20 years ago, said word of Trebek's illness hit him "like a ton of bricks."

He occasionally drops into the Los Angeles-area studio to watch tapings and marvels at the host's perseverance.

"Every time I go back, he's better than he was last time. Even with cancer, he's still held up to that standard, which is just absolutely amazing," Rutter said.

Such praise and attention can make Trebek uncomfortable.

"I don't want to get too mushy. I got mushy when young Dhruv (contestant Dhruv Gaur) wrote his final 'Jeopardy!' response, 'We love you Alex! 'That caught me by surprise, brought me to the edge of tears," he said of the moment that aired during November's Tournament of Champions.

"It's humbling to realize there are so many people out there who care enough about you to want to pray for you every day, who want to send you their best wishes," he said. But Trebek said he never loses sight of the show's real attraction.

"I tell people all the time, 'Hey, folks, the show's not about me, it's about the material and the contestants. Those are the two main items. And if they shine, if the material plays well, if the contestants do well, people will enjoy the show. If they enjoy the show, probably some of that enjoyment will rub off on their views of me, and they'll like me too," he said, modestly.

But he expressed confidence that it will thrive with someone new.

"No matter who's hosting it, 'Jeopardy!' will go on. It's a quality program and it's put together by very bright people. And when I move on, that doesn't matter, " he said. "It's the best kind of reality television, so it will endure."

Millennials have worse health than Generation X, report says

And they'll pay more for health care

By MAX FILBY
The Columbus Dispatch (TNS)

Millennials are on track to be in poorer health than the previous generation, and Ohio medical experts warn that the trend could translate into higher health care costs and shorter lives.

Millennials' worse health is largely a result of an increase in behavioral issues such as depression and addiction, but also of hypertension and high cholesterol, among other factors, according to a report released by insurer Blue Cross Blue Shield.

The opioid epidemic also might be a factor, according to the November report.

The report raises a big red flag because "typically speaking, it's the young people you expect to be healthier," said Dr. Randell Wexler, a family medicine physician at Ohio State University's Wexner Medical Center.

"It's a big deal physically, financially and emotionally and a strain to a system that's not ready to handle that many people at such a young age," Wexler said.

Millennials are people who were born between 1981 and 1996, and Generation Xers were born between 1965 and 1980.

If the trend continues, the millennial mortality rate could increase by more than 40 percent compared with that of Generation X at the same age, according to the study.

The millennial mortality rate for age 35 is on track to be just below 0.25 percent for men and about 0.12 percent for women. That's up from a Generation X mortality rate at age 35 that peaked at just under 0.20 percent for men and about 0.10 percent for women, the report shows.

Getting more active is the best way for young people to attack both the physical and mental health concerns raised by the report, Wexler said.

"Exercise is the most important thing," he said. "It's the one thing they can do that cuts across everything, and people need to know that even walking (more) counts."

Poor health is something of a "vicious cycle," said Tom Campanella, an associate professor of health economics at Baldwin Wallace University in the Cleveland suburb of Berea. A depressed person is not only more likely to suffer from substance abuse but also less likely to exercise, he said.

Reinforcing that, Campanella said, is the advent of social media and personal devices such as smartphones, tablets and laptops. Together, they allow people to entertain themselves without much physical activity and can isolate people from others, leading to more depression, he said.

"I think there's some direct tie-ins to a number of different factors," Campanella said. "But if you're glued to the cellphone, the social media or the video game, you're not out there doing sports or exercising."

The Blue Cross Blue Shield report, Campanella said, should serve as a warning sign to millennials. That means they need to go to the doctor for regular checkups instead of just when they get sick, both Wexler and Campanella said.

The survey also says that almost one-third of millennials do not have a primary care physician, which probably keeps many from getting preventive care.

Do you remember?

25 years ago – 1995

The former Michigan National Guard Armory in St. Joseph could go on the market at a discount this spring if the property reappraises at a lesser value. John McGraw of the Department of Military Affairs said the property and four buildings on the St. Joseph River will be reappraised. No one bid on it in the fall when it was offered for sale at $400,000, a price the assessor called "peanuts" compared to nearby Ridgeway properties.

The property is listed on the National Register of Historical Places, which offers incentives to encourage owners to save historic sites – but may be scaring buyers away.

35 years ago – 1985

The Berrien County Red Cross hit 100 percent of its blood donation goal in December, collecting 295 pints, according to John Mecomber, blood drive coordinator.

Mecomber noted that during the first six months of the blood drive year 2,392 pints of blood have been collected, representing 105 percent of the goal.

50 years ago – 1970

Donald McAlvey, personnel assistant for the Benton Harbor School District, is the new superintendent of Eau Claire Schools.

John Glassman, president of the Eau Claire Board of Education, said McAlvey will sign a 2 1/2 year contract during a special board meeting tonight. The contract will include the balance of this school year and run through the 1971-72 school year.

Today in history

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 7, the seventh day of 2020. There are 359 days left in the year.

Highlight in History:

On Jan. 7, 2004, President George W. Bush proposed legal status, at least temporarily, for millions of immigrants improperly working in the U.S.

On this date:

In 1789, America held its first presidential election as voters chose electors who, a month later, selected George Washington to be the nation's first chief executive.

In 1927, commercial transatlantic telephone service was inaugurated between New York and London.

In 1999, for the second time in history, an impeached American president went on trial before the Senate. President Bill Clinton faced charges of perjury and obstruction of justice; he was acquitted.

In 2004, President George W. Bush proposed legal status, at least temporarily, for millions of immigrants improperly working in the U.S.

In 2006, Jill Carroll, a freelance journalist for The Christian Science Monitor, was kidnapped and her translator shot dead in Baghdad. (Carroll was freed almost three months later.)

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Rain Likely	Rain Likely	Scattered Snow
38°	23°	28° / 18°	45° / 37°	43° / 34°	36° / 27°

Local Outlook

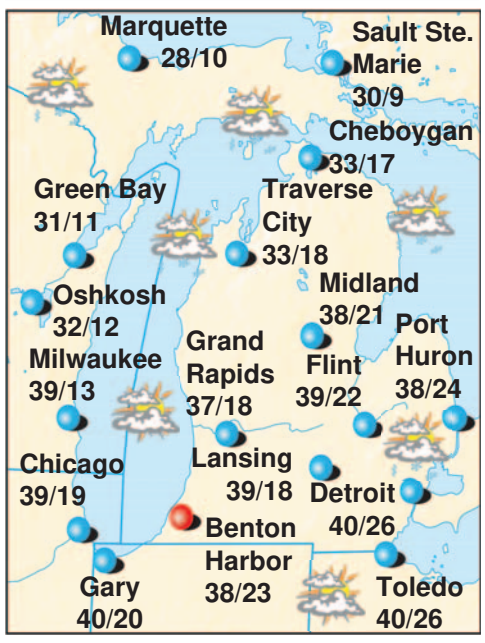
Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a slight chance of showers, high temperature of 38°, humidity of 65%. West southwest wind 10 to 19 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a slight chance of snow showers, overnight low of 23°. West northwest wind 16 to 22 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise	8:14 a.m.
Sunset	5:29 p.m.
Moonrise	2:58 p.m.
Moonset	4:58 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
1/10	1/17	1/24	2/1

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	42°
Low	26°
Normal High	31°
Normal Low	17°
Record High	59° in 2008
Record Low	-16° in 2014

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	Trace
Normal for month	0.33"
Year to date	Trace
Normal Year to date	0.33"

Air Quality

Yesterday 30

Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

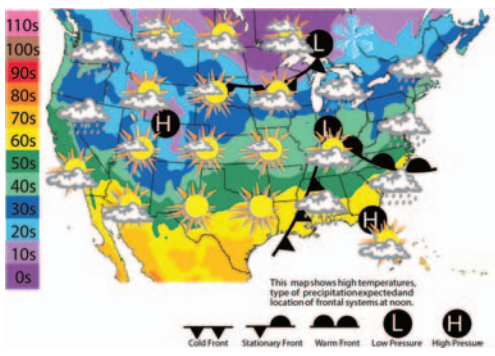
Weather Trivia

What meteorological instrument was invented by Samuel F.B. Morse?

Answer: The telegraph, which made timely detection of storm systems possible.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Jan. 7, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, SW wind 13 to 18 kt. Winds could gust as high as 24 kt. A chance of showers. Waves 3 ft building to 6 ft. Water temperature 37 degrees. Tonight, W wind 22 to 27 kt.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with widespread snow showers, highs in the 20s and 30s. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Wednesday with isolated snow showers, highs in the 10s and 20s. West wind 2 to 14 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with isolated snow showers, highs in the 30s and 40s. West southwest wind 10 to 19 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies Wednesday with highs in the 20s. Southwest wind 2 to 16 mph.

Unique lawsuit filed against Boy Scouts in D.C.

By DAVID CRARY
AP National Writer

Rick Bowmer / AP file photo

A youth looks over the Norman Rockwell exhibition in Salt Lake City, featuring his Boy Scout-themed paintings in 2013. A team of lawyers filed a lawsuit Monday in federal court in Washington, D.C., seeking to establish the nation's capital as a venue for men across the U.S. to sue the Boy Scouts of America for allegedly failing to protect them from long-ago sexual abuse at the hands of scoutmasters and other leaders.

A team of lawyers filed a lawsuit Monday in federal court in Washington, D.C., seeking to establish the nation's capital as a venue for men across the U.S. to sue the Boy Scouts of America for allegedly failing to protect them from long-ago sexual abuse at the hands of scoutmasters and other leaders.

The eight plaintiffs in the potentially ground-breaking lawsuit, identified as John Does 1 through 8, live in states where statute of limitations laws would prevent them from suing the BSA based on claims of sex abuse that occurred decades ago.

The plaintiffs' lawyers contend that federal court in Washington is an appropriate venue for such a lawsuit because the Boy Scouts were incorporated there in 1910 and obtained a congressional charter in 1916. Along with several states – including New York, New Jersey and California – the District of Columbia eased its statute of limitations in 2019 to accommodate claims like those in the new lawsuit.

The Boy Scouts, in an email to The Associated Press, said it cannot comment on pending litigation. It reiterated its previous apologies to "anyone who was harmed during their time in Scouting."

"We believe victims, we support them, we pay for counseling by a provider of their choice and we encourage them to come forward," the BSA said.

The lawyers handling the new lawsuit, from the Washington firm of Zuckerman Spaeder, are affiliated with Abused in Scouting, a nationwide legal team that is signing up hundreds of clients across the U.S. who seek to file sex-abuse claims against the BSA.

The lawsuit contends that the BSA has known since its early years that it attracted pedophiles into its ranks of adult leaders, yet avoided public acknowledgement of the dangers for decades even as it kept secret files of men known or suspected of committing sex abuse.

The lawsuit notes that the BSA submits an annual report to Congress summarizing its recent activities.

"However, never once in 103 years of reporting to Congress has BSA disclosed the fact that its programs were, and are, magnets to tens of thousands of pedophiles," the lawsuit says. "Instead, BSA's Reports to the Nation have miscast the organization as a bastion of moral authority."

The lawsuit's premise that the Washington, D.C. federal court has jurisdiction because of the BSA's congressional charter has not been tested and will likely be challenged, but Aitan Goelman, one of the plaintiffs' lawyers, says it's worth a try.

"We're intentionally trying to make this a venue for a national case against the Boy Scouts," he said. "We're doing it conscious of the fact that it's unusual and we explain why we believe it's legally sound."

A key element, he said, is the inconsistency of statute of limitations laws in the states.

"If you were raped in California, as opposed to Texas, you have a potential avenue for some measure of justice – but it shouldn't depend on the vagaries of geography," Goelman said. "The Boy Scouts are a national organization. It cannot be, just based on luck of the draw, that some of these men are completely shut out of the courts and some are not."

The lawsuit's plaintiffs live in eight different states – Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Hawaii, Kentucky, Utah, Virginia and West Virginia.

The plaintiff from Hawaii, although identified in the lawsuit as a John Doe, chose to speak on the record with The Associated Press. He is Dave Henson, a 39-year-old Navy officer who says he was abused by an assistant scout leader in Lake Dallas, Texas, starting in 1991 when he was 11 and continuing for five years.

Henson said that after years of enduring anxiety, shame and depression, he felt relieved to be part of litigation that could benefit abuse victims across the U.S.

The BSA has been entangled for years in costly litigation with men accusing Scout leaders of abusing them as children. Hundreds of new lawsuits now loom after several states enacted laws making it easier for victims of long-ago abuse to seek damages.

The organization, headquartered in Irving, Texas, says it's exploring "all options available" to maintain its programs and pay fair compensation to victims who were abused as scouts. The BSA has not ruled out the possibility of filing for bankruptcy.

There's also another new blow: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints – for decades the largest sponsor of Boy Scout troops – is pulling more than 400,000 young people out of the BSA and moving them into a new global program of its own. The move is expected to reduce the BSA's youth membership from about 2.2 million to roughly 1.8 million – the first time since the World War II era that the figure will fall below 2 million. At the group's peak in the 1970s, more than 4 million boys were Scouts.

Mother of Texas baby on life support speaks out amid court battle

By JAMIE STENGLE
Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — A woman awaiting a court decision in her battle against a Texas hospital's plan to end life-sustaining treatment for her 11-month-old daughter spoke out Monday after revoking the medical center's permission to talk about her child's treatment.

"This situation takes away my job as a mother and lets other people who don't even know her decide whether her life is worth living," Trinity Lewis said during a news conference outside the hospital. She says she doesn't believe her daughter is suffering.

Doctors at Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth insist Tinslee Lewis is in pain and will never recover. They had planned to remove Tinslee from life support Nov. 10 after invoking the state's "10-day rule" that can be employed when a family disagrees with doctors who say life-sustaining treatment should be stopped. The law stipulates that if the hospital's ethics committee agrees with doctors, treatment can be withdrawn after 10 days if a new provider can't be found to take the patient.

Texas' Second Court of Appeals on Friday said the hospital can't remove Tinslee from life support until the court makes a final ruling in the case. In a lower court in Tarrant County on Thursday, a judge denied the mother's request to issue an injunction in the case.

Tinslee has been at Cook Children's since her premature birth on Feb. 1. The hospital has said she has a rare heart defect and suffers from chronic lung disease and severe chronic high blood pressure. The hospital has said she has been on a ventilator since going into respiratory arrest in early July and requires full respiratory and cardiac support, deep sedation and to be medically paralyzed.

At a hearing last month, Dr. Jay Duncan, one of Tinslee's physicians, testified that the girl is in pain and that treatment was no longer benefiting her.

Efforts to find another facility to take the girl have been unsuccessful. The hospital said it has reached out to more than 20 facilities.

TRASH

From page A1

In November, when the check was given to Huddleston, trash was not picked up for almost a week because Edwards said Huddleston didn't pay any of the bills. At the time, Edwards said he needed the money to pay for fuel and landfill fees.

Commissioners in November approved forwarding December's monthly check to Edwards so he could start picking up the trash again.

City attorney Randy Hyrns said Monday that he has been in constant contact with the Berrien County Prosecutor's Office on this issue. He said he couldn't say who should receive the check without doing more research.

But he did say he has some doubts about the legitimacy of the Jan. 2 letter because it wasn't on letterhead or from an attorney.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

PLAYGROUND

From page A1

during the more recent application.

In addition to the playground equipment, the project will include play surfacing, benches, landscaping, trash and recycle bins, and an access sidewalk from the concession pavilion.

Kandow said his hope is for the project to be completed by Aug. 11, weather permitting.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter: @HPSwidwa

HARBOR PROJECT

From page A1

to water, job and business opportunities, and government transparency.

Recommendations were generated for Riverview Drive in Benton Harbor; Marina Island; Fisherman's Wharf on the other side of the river; the inner harbor on the south side of the river near the Berrien County Courthouse; and the outer harbor, next to LaFarge silos on the north side of the river.

The vision includes a waterside boardwalk and trail connector, a trailside brew pub, residential townhouses, retail businesses such as a grocery store and hotel, plus event space and a cultural center.

Once a governing body for the development is formed, with representation from all three municipalities, the next step would be to prioritize opportunities to being implementing the plan.

"Early success leads to momentum," Finnell said.

HP staff writer Louise Wrege contributed to this story.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter: @HPSwidwa

hp SPORTS

Alabama QB Tagovailoa to enter draft

Page B3

Jose Juarez / AP

Detroit Red Wings right wing Filip Zadina skates for the puck against the Los Angeles Kings in the third period of a game Dec. 15 in Detroit.

Wings' Zadina a bright spot during miserable season

By HELENE ST. JAMES
Detroit Free Press (TNS)

CHICAGO — In this season of misery, what matters is the development of the players the Red Wings view as critical to the rebuild.

Filip Zadina is making strides in showing where he will fit. He enters Tuesday's game against the Montreal Canadiens on a confident note, having tallied his 10th point in 18 games since joining the Wings in late November.

Zadina converted on a power play in Sunday's 4-2 loss to the Chicago Blackhawks at United Center, taking the puck and carrying it around the right circle for several seconds before roofing a shot. Zadina played 19:24, and was on late in the third period when the Wings were trying to level a 3-2 deficit and had pulled their goaltender.

"I thought Filip was playing pretty good," Wings coach Jeff Blashill said. "He was making some plays, he was managing his game and he plays with some confidence. He had scored the goal and sometimes when guys score, they feel good about themselves. I like his progress. I think he's playing pretty good hockey.

"The goal he scored is a goal that he can score, a goal that he will score. He has a real good wrister from that spot. At times I think he has a better wrister than he has a one-timer, and so when he catches and shoots it, he has a good chance of scoring. He's grown as a player. That's the positive."

The Wings drafted Zadina at sixth overall in 2018. He struggled last season in Grand Rapids, his first season of pro hockey, and didn't look like he was ready for the NHL during exhibition season. But since being called up Nov. 24, Zadina has shown noticeable growth.

"He is skating well, smart with the puck, he's holding onto it," Luke Glendening said. "He just looks confident out there. A great shot on his goal. He is making plays all over the ice. He has put a lot of work in, that's for sure. He's backchecking, he will

See **ZADINA**, page B3

Pistons considering surgery for Griffin

Star's season could be over after playing in only 18 games

By ROD BEARD
The Detroit News (TNS)

LOS ANGELES — The Pistons' injury situation may be taking a dramatic turn.

And it could be with their best player.

Blake Griffin, who has been limited by a knee injury and has played in just 18 of the team's 37 games, could be done for the season.

Yahoo Sports' Chris Haynes reported Monday that Griffin will visit a knee specialist this week in Los Angeles and that season-ending surgery is a consideration.

Griffin, 30, had the best season of his career last year with an All-NBA selection, and the Pistons were looking to capitalize it with new free-agent additions and better overall play to make another playoff push.

He posted 24.5 points, 7.5 rebounds and 5.4 assists, earning his sixth All-Star selection and helping the Pistons reach the playoffs.

After offseason knee surgery, Griffin was limited in the preseason and missed the first 10 games of the regular season. In his 18 games this season, he has struggled, with a career-low 15.5 points and 4.7 rebounds.

Griffin, who has two

See **GRIFFIN**, page B3

Hitting their stride

Al Goldis / AP

Michigan State's Cassius Winston reacts after sinking a three-pointer against Michigan during the second half of Sunday's game in East Lansing. Michigan State won 87-69.

Spartans rising again after throttling Michigan

By NOAH TRISTER
AP Sports Writer

EAST LANSING — Cassius Winston smoothly dribbling in and out of traffic, distributing the ball and making jump shots. Xavier Tillman controlling the interior on both ends of the court.

This is why Michigan State was the nation's top-ranked team at the beginning of the season.

It took a little while, but the Spartans are finally on a bit of a roll.

"We had a couple of slip-ups at the beginning of the season, but to keep battling and be on an upward trend shows us we're fighters," Winston said. "That's all you can ask for in a conference like this."

Winston was simply sensational Sunday, scoring 32 points with nine assists to lift Michigan State over rival Michigan 87-69. On Monday, the Spartans moved up six spots to No. 8 in the AP poll. Michigan moved down seven spots to No. 19.

It was another victory for Michigan State over its rival. The Spartans beat the Wolverines three times last season and eventually reached the Final Four. Winston's return was a big reason Michigan State was No. 1 in the preseason poll.

"I've got the most unselfish superstar maybe ever, a guy who can score that many points and still be as unselfish as he is," coach Tom Izzo said. "That makes it easier on the coach and easier on the players. I mean they pull for him because they love him and they appreciate him, not because he's the best player."

The Spartans, however, have not had an easy season so far. Joshua Langford hasn't played because of foot problems, and he eventually had season-ending surgery. Michigan State lost its opener to Kentucky, and then the

See **SPARTANS**, page B3

'We just gotta be confident'

Road shooting woes continue for Michigan

By ORION SANG
Detroit Free Press

It's a small sample size.

But so far this season, Michigan has struggled to shoot the ball in true road games.

In three games at Louisville, Illinois and Michigan State, the Wolverines made just 11 of 60 attempts from 3-point range (18.3%). In all other games, either at Crisler Center or neutral sites, they've made 111 of 263 (41.8%).

That latter mark would rank in the top five in the nation.

But the road shooting numbers are a contributing factor to Michigan's winless record in true road games.

"You're away from home," said center Jon Teske. "The environment's different, traveling is different. But that's no excuse. You just gotta come in, come prepared and knock those shots down."

Mike Mulholland / mlive.com / TNS

Michigan guard Zavier Simpson works against Michigan State forward Aaron Henry in the first half of Sunday's game.

Michigan struggled throughout Sunday's 87-69 loss at Breslin Center with its outside shooting. The Wolverines missed their first six 3-point attempts and finished the first half just 2 of 12. The final 20 minutes weren't much better, as U-M shot 3 of 11to finish 5 of 23 for the game.

The absence of Isaiah Livers, the team's top shooter, played a factor. He averages 50% on 4.8 3-point attempts per game. The Wolverines started Brandon Johns Jr. in Livers' place, and Johns was 1 of 4 from 3 after entering the game 2 of 10 on the season. The staff used other two-big lineups to combat Livers' absence, and those groupings also struggled to space the floor.

Johns missed a couple of early attempts and passed on open shots. He wasn't the only one: after the game, several players said they felt the team wasn't confident enough in its shooting ability.

"We gotta trust those shots, they'll go in," Teske said. "Coach (Phil) Martelli said, we got a lot of shots in the first half. And how many of those shots do you trust to go in? Expect to go in? Or you're just kinda shooting it? So we just gotta have the mindset

See **WOLVERINES**, page B3

Matt York / AP

Justin Thomas plays his shot from the 13th tee during the final round of the Tournament of Champions golf event Sunday at Kapalua Plantation Course in Kapalua, Hawaii.

Justin Thomas grabs a win he thought he had lost

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

KAPALUA, Hawaii — Justin Thomas began the new year mildly disappointed by not having won more than he already has on the PGA Tour.

That's not to suggest he ever thought it was easy.

Sunday at Kapalua was proof of that.

Thomas won the Sentry Tournament of Champions in a three-man playoff over Patrick Reed and Xander Schauffele for his third victory in his last six starts on the PGA Tour, and the 12th of his career. Thomas, 26, now has more victories than any active players younger than 30.

That took time to digest, mainly because of how he got to No. 12.

He birdied six out of eight holes to turn a two-shot deficit into a two-shot lead with three holes to play.

"Through 15 holes, it was one of the best rounds I had played," he said.

He fell into a playoff by hitting at toe-hook off the tee at the par-5 18th, followed by a 3-wood that landed in knee-high vegetation so thick that a nine-member search party couldn't find it. He made bogey.

"I botched it up pretty badly," he said.

Schauffele became only the fourth player in the final round to reach the 18th green, a 3-wood that left him a 35-foot eagle attempt. He three-putted for par, missing a 7-foot putt for the win.

Thomas, who had stood off the green with his cap removed and his head bowed anticipating defeat, suddenly had another chance. It also gave life to Reed, who nearly an hour earlier had made a 20-foot birdie putt for a 66 — matching the best score of the tournament — that he figured would fall short at 14-under 278.

It was the first three-man playoff since the tournament moved to Kapalua in 1999.

"I got very lucky to even have that opportunity," Thomas said.

See **THOMAS**, page B3

In brief

Lakers seek middle school soccer coaches

Lake Michigan Catholic is seeking qualified applicants for the boys and girls soccer coaching positions at Lake Michigan Catholic Middle School. For any inquiries or questions, contact athletic director Neil Carter at ncarter@lmclakers.org.

Source: Cowboys pick McCarthy as coach

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys didn't take long to settle on Mike McCarthy as their coach after waiting a week to announce they were moving on from Jason Garrett.

McCarthy, who won a Super Bowl at the home of the Cowboys nine years ago as Green Bay's coach, has agreed to become the ninth coach in team history, a person with direct knowledge of the deal said Monday.

McCarthy interviewed over the weekend, before the Cowboys made the announcement Sunday that Garrett wouldn't return after 9½ seasons.

Dallas missed the playoffs at 8-8 with high expectations in a make-or-break season for Garrett, whose contract expires next week.

Green Bay made nine trips to the postseason in his 13 years under McCarthy. The 56-year-old was out of football this season after getting fired during what ended up being a second straight losing season for the Packers in 2018.

Wisconsin WR Cephus to enter NFL draft

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Wisconsin is losing its top running back and now its top wide receiver to the NFL.

Quintez Cephus announced Monday on Twitter and Instagram that he will skip his senior season to enter the NFL draft.

"I'm excited to put my name in for the draft and to have a chance to play at the highest level," Cephus said.

The announcement came three days after record-setting junior tailback Jonathan Taylor announced his decision to enter the draft.

The 6-foot-1, 207-pound Cephus led Wisconsin in receptions (59), receiving yards (901) and touchdown receptions (seven) in 2019.

Cephus missed the final five games of the Badgers' 2017 campaign because of a broken right leg and did not play at all in 2018 after being expelled from school following sexual assault charges.

Cephus was acquitted by a jury in August, reinstated by school officials and was ruled academically eligible for 2019.

Duke's Moore out after hand surgery

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Duke freshman forward Wendell Moore Jr. is out indefinitely after having surgery to repair a broken bone in his right hand.

Speaking during the Atlantic Coast Conference coaches' teleconference, coach Mike Krzyzewski said the 6-foot-6 forward wouldn't travel for the second-ranked Blue Devils' game Wednesday at Georgia Tech. The team issued a statement later Monday after completion of the procedure, saying Moore is expected to return this season.

Moore was hurt with about 4:40 left in Saturday's 95-62 win at Miami. He lost the ball on a turnover and reached for a steal, then immediately grabbed his right hand. He stayed in the game for another possession before exiting with 4:11 left and immediately having his hand examined on the bench.

"We think everything's going to be good, but he'll be out for a while," Krzyzewski said.

Moore has started five games and is averaging 7.4 points with 3.9 rebounds in 22 minutes of action for a team with a deep rotation.

Airwaves

Television today

7:00 p.m. (Bigten) **College Basketball** Penn State at Rutgers. (Live) (CC)
(ESPN) **College Basketball** Ohio State at Maryland. (Live)
(ESPN2) **College Basketball** Miami at Louisville. (Live)
(FS1) **College Basketball** Providence at Marquette. (Live) (CC)
7:30 p.m. (FoxDetroit) **NHL Hockey** Montreal Canadiens at Detroit Red Wings. (Live)
(NBCSports) **NHL Hockey** Colorado Avalanche at New York Rangers. (Live)
8:30 p.m. (NBCSCH) **NHL Hockey** Calgary Flames at Chicago Blackhawks. (Live)
9:00 p.m. (Bigten) **College Basketball** Iowa at Nebraska. (Live) (CC)
(ESPN) **College Basketball** Kentucky at Georgia. (Live)
(ESPN2) **College Basketball** Baylor at Texas Tech (Live)
(FS1) **College Basketball** Villanova at Creighton. (Live) (CC)
11:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Basketball** Utah State at Air Force. (Live)

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. (FS1) **College Basketball** St. John's at Georgetown. (Live) (CC)
7:00 p.m. (Bigten) **College Basketball** Northwestern at Indiana. (Live) (CC)
(ESPN2) **College Basketball** Notre Dame at N.C. State. (Live)
7:30 p.m. (ESPN) **NBA Basketball** Denver Nuggets at Dallas Mavericks. (Live)
(NBCSports) **NHL Hockey** Washington Capitals at Philadelphia Flyers. (Live)
8:00 p.m. (FoxDetroit) **Women's College Basketball** Oklahoma at Oklahoma State. (Live)
(NBCSCH) **NBA Basketball** Chicago Bulls at New Orleans Pelicans. (Live)
8:30 p.m. (FS1) **College Basketball** Seton Hall at Xavier. (Live) (CC)
9:00 p.m. (Bigten) **College Basketball** Illinois at Wisconsin. (Live) (CC)
(ESPN2) **College Basketball** Oklahoma at Texas. (Live)
10:00 p.m. (ESPN) **NBA Basketball** Milwaukee Bucks at Golden State Warriors. (Live)
(NBCSports) **NHL Hockey** Dallas Stars at Los Angeles Kings. (Live)
11:00 p.m. (Golf) **Asian Tour Golf** Hong Kong Open, First Round. (Live) (CC)
5:00 a.m. (Golf) **European PGA Tour Golf** South African Open, First Round. (Live)

Radio today

7 p.m.
High school basketball — Benton Harbor at Battle Creek Central (WSJM-AM, 1400; WSJM-FM, 106.1)
7:15 p.m.
High school basketball — Gobles at South Haven (WCSY-FM, 103.7)
9 p.m.
College basketball — Baylor at Texas Tech (WSJM-AM, 1400; WSJM-FM, 106.1)

Wednesday

5:30 p.m.
College basketball doubleheader — Glen Oaks at Lake Michigan College (WSJM-AM, 1400; WSJM-FM, 106.1)

Contact us

The Herald-Palladium sports desk is staffed after 7 p.m. nightly. Coaches or managers are asked to report results as soon as possible the evening of the event for publication in the next day's edition.

Phone numbers
(269) 429-1294
(855) 317-4292, ext. 294
Fax number
(269) 429-4392

Email address for reporting results
sports@TheHP.com

Sports staff
Ben Sanders
Sports Editor
bsanders@TheHP.com
429-1294
Maxwell Harden
Sports Writer
mharden@TheHP.com
932-0371

Roger Penske takes ownership of Indianapolis Motor Speedway

By JENNA FRYER
AP Auto Racing Writer

AJ Mast / AP

Penske Corporation Chairman Roger Penske responds to a question during a Nov. 4 press conference at Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Penske completed his purchase of Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Monday, becoming just the fourth owner of the historic facility and subsidiaries that include the IndyCar Series.

Roger Penske completed his purchase of Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Monday, becoming just the fourth owner of the historic facility and subsidiaries that include the IndyCar Series.

The speedway had been owned by Tony Hulman and Hulman & Co. since 1945, but the family approached Penske in September for advice when Tony George and his three sisters decided to sell. Penske jumped at the opportunity.

Penske first attended the Indianapolis 500 in 1951 as a teenager and has missed only six runnings of "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing" since. His 18 victories in the Indy 500 as a car owner are a record, and Simon Pagenaud swept the month of May for Team Penske last year.

"We are looking forward to carrying on the tradition of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and IndyCar racing," Penske said. "We have been diligently working with the teams at IMS, IndyCar and IMS Productions over the last two months to ensure a smooth and productive transition and we are ready to hit the ground running."

Terms of the sale have not been disclosed, but people familiar with the transaction have told AP some of the discussions involved offers of $250 million and $300 million for the package, with a promise of additional capital improvements to the speedway.

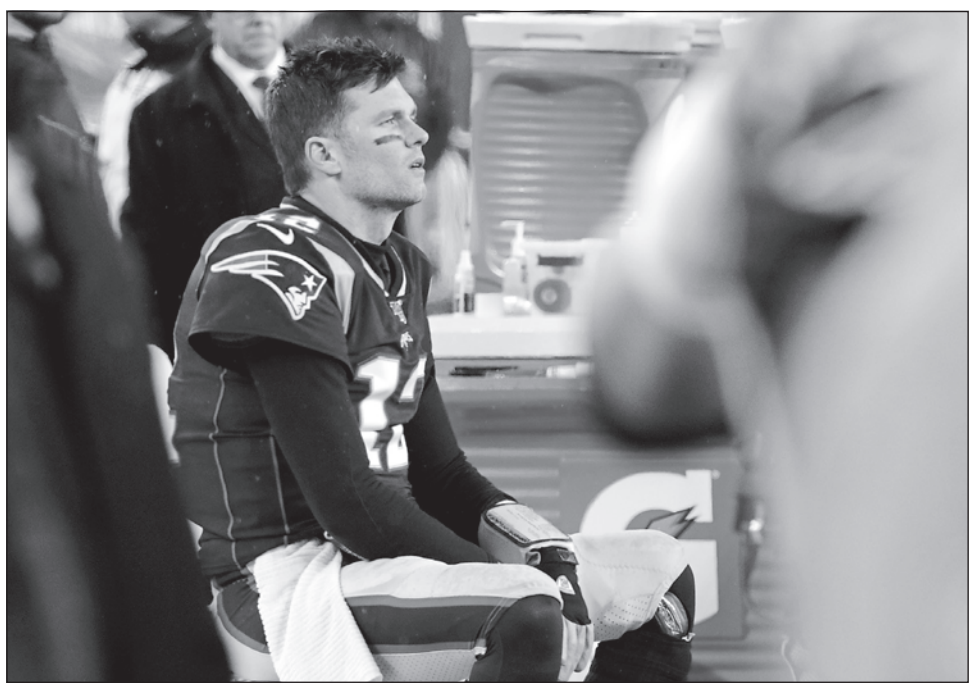
It took the Penske Corp. only six weeks to reach a purchase agreement with Hulman & Co. and the sale was initially announced in November. The very next day, the 82-year-old Penske walked the entire grounds and began making lists on improvements "The Captain" wants done.

The sale puts him in charge of the speedway, the open-wheel series that is built around the 500 and the track's esteemed production group. Penske will step down as race strategist for Will Power to avoid any conflict of interest in owning the series as well as a three-car team.

The IndyCar Series has been in a slow rebuild but the industry hopes Penske's reach can speed up the process. Penske does not plan to make any immediate changes to leadership at the speedway or IndyCar, but he does plan to put his own board of directors in place.

IndyCar has been unsuccessful so far in luring a third engine manufacturer to the series, one of the many bucket list items that Penske may have an easier time achieving. An American industrialist, his fortune was built in the trucking and transportation business, but he is highly connected in the automotive world and an important fixture in Detroit.

Penske owns multiple car dealerships and competes for Chevrolet, Ford and Acura with his various race teams.



Bill Sikes / AP

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady sits on the bench after throwing an interception that Tennessee Titans cornerback Logan Ryan returned for a touchdown late in the second half of a wild-card playoff game Saturday in Foxborough, Mass.

Next up for Tom Brady after early playoff exit: Who knows?

By BARRY WILNER
AP Pro Football Writer

Teammates and opponents, coaches and NFL executives, even most fans recognize that Tom Brady has nothing left to prove.

There might be one dissenting voice: Brady himself.

Maybe that's why in the midst of the disappointment — and some discontent — with how the Patriots' season ended and how he performed in the second half of the schedule, Brady came pretty close to guaranteeing he will be back for a 21st season. At age 43.

Asked about retirement following the wild-card loss to the Texans, Brady said, "I would say it's pretty unlikely, but, yeah, hopefully unlikely."

Later, to another question about his plans, Brady added:

"Again, I don't want to get too much into the future and stuff. I mean, this team has fought hard. We battled every day, we tried to get better, we worked hard to improve, and I was proud to be a part of this team. Not only this year, but every year.

"Again, I just don't know what's going to happen and I'm not going to predict it. No one needs to make choices at this point. I love playing football, I love playing for this team. I've loved playing for this team for two decades and winning a lot of games. And again, I don't know what it looks like moving forward, so we'll just take it day by day."

Brady doesn't need football any longer from a success standpoint. Not with a record six Super Bowl rings, four MVP honors in the big game, and three league MVP awards. Five years after he has retired, he'll be feted in Canton, Ohio as a first-ballot Hall of Famer.

He doesn't need the money, either.

What he seems to require, like so many star athletes, is the competition that spices his existence. The adrenaline explosions. The challenges.

The locker room rapport. The practices. The game planning.

Brady surely knows there are few, if any, replacements outside of the game once he leaves the sport for good. Unlike the man he is most compared to among his contemporaries, Peyton Manning, Brady doesn't fit the off-field celebrity role Manning has embraced so well.

So, barring physical ailments — and few football players ever have taken care of themselves the way Brady has — another year at the helm of the Patriots or another team appears doable. Here's a peek into which uniform Brady could wind up in for 2020.

Patriots

Obviously, remaining where he has spent the last two decades not only as the face of the franchise but for several years the face of the league is most logical. Or is it?

Maybe Brady would like to try replicating his New England successes with another coach. In part to show he can reach the top in a different system and a different city. In part to display that the Patriots' dynastic run was built on his brilliance more than anything.

Should he return to Foxborough, Brady can name his price. Does anyone see owner Robert Kraft balking? Especially after some of the "hometown discounts" Brady allegedly took in past negotiations?

He also would be wise to insist on better personnel around him after the drop-off in talent level at receiver and on the offensive line this season.

Chargers

Brady is a California guy; sure, it's NoCal, but he and his wife, super model Gisele Bundchen, would seem a perfect fit in SoCal.

Philip Rivers comes off one of his worst seasons and the Chargers could be ready to move on from their long-time QB. Plus, what better way to move into their new home? They will be overshadowed by the Rams in SoFi Stadium — except with Brady behind center.

Bengals

Brady could play and tutor Joe Burrow. Nah, he's not likely to touch the NFL's worst team.

Bears

Brady at 53 might be more reliable than Mitchell Trubisky was this season. And, like New England, Chicago has a top-shelf defense.

Cowboys

Maybe Dak Prescott isn't the answer to America's Team's nearly quarter-century Super Bowl drought. We all know how much Jerry Jones likes to create headlines. What a doozy that would be in Big D.

High school scoreboard

By HP STAFF

GIRLS BASKETBALL

BUCHANAN 54, LAWRENCE 14

BUCHANAN (54)
Faith C. 8 1-1 17, Alea F. 6 0-0 14, Claire L. 5 0-3 11, Serynn N. 2 0-0 4, Sophia. 1 2-2 4, Hailey Jonazke. 1 0-0 2, Brooke A. 1 -0- 2. Totals: 24 3-6 54.
LAWRENCE (14)
P. Marney 3 0-0 6, K. Stroud 2 0-0 4, L. Marsh Peek 1 0-2 2, S. Peek 0 2-5 2. Totals: 6 2-7 14.

Buchanan	**22**	**9**	**15**	**8**	**– 54**
Lawrence	**2**	**3**	**1**	**8**	**– 14**

3-point goals – Buchanan 3 (Alea F. 2, Claire L.). Total fouls – Lawrence 12, Buchanan 12. Fouled out – None. Technical fouls – None. Records – Buchanan 6-0, Lawrence 2-6.

MICHIGAN LUTHERAN 62, PARCHMENT 27

MICHIGAN LUTHERAN (62)
Mara Rugen 12 0-2 25, Jessi Jewell 7 0-0 14, Rebekah Hisle 3 0-0 6, Alexia Tobias 2 0-0 4, Abby Harris 2 0-0 4, Jenna Koehler 1 0-0 2, Sophee Garcia 1 0-2 2, Clare Berghaus 1 0-0 2, Hailey Conrad 1 0-0 2, Maria Rush 0 1-2 1. Totals: 30 1-6 62.
PARCHMENT (27)
Alyssa Milleus 4 0-0 8, Aly Buytendorp 3 0-0 7, Jessica Dreier 3 0-0 6, Ilison Geiger 1 0-0 3, Ilysa Wilson-Stewart 1 1-2 3. Totals: 12 1-2 27.

Mich. Lutheran	**8**	**14**	**18**	**22**	**– 62**
Parchment	**2**	**9**	**10**	**6**	**– 27**

3-point goals – M Lutheran 3 (Rugen, Geiger, Buytendorp). Total fouls – Parchment 10, M Lutheran 4. Fouled out – None. Technical Fouls – None. Records – M Lutheran 6-0, Parchment 0-8.

BOYS BOWLING

COLOMA 30, MARTIN 0

Team total – Coloma 1756, Martin 1085
Baker games – Coloma 160, Martin 93; Coloma 162, Martin 99
Coloma – Two games: Charlie Cullitan 414, Jonathan Swetay 381, Damian Gomez 371.
Martin – Two games: James Blackburn 209, Dominic Speed 198, Javier Gunora 187, Josh Smith 210, cris Ramos 281.

GIRLS BOWLING

COLOMA 30, MARTIN 0

Team total – Coloma 1550, Martin 1062
Baker Games – Coloma 174, Martin 119; Coloma 156, Martin 98
Coloma – Two games: Eadie Needham 244, Madison McQuilar 299, Ashley Ikerd 279, Carissa Richmond 341, Morgan Hosbein 387.
Martin – Two games: Mayer Alley 236 Ellie Castora 209, Kassandra Wilson 206, Olivia Dillanbeck 225.

Mavericks edge Bulls

DALLAS (AP) — Luka Doncic scored 21 of his 38 points in the third quarter and had his NBA-leading 11th triple-double of the season to lead the Dallas Mavericks past the Chicago Bulls 118-110 Monday.

Doncic scored 17 of the Mavs' 19 points in the final 5:35 of the third to break open what had been a tie game. His 3 gave Dallas a 72-69 lead it would not relinquish.

The 20-year-old added 11 rebounds and 10 assists for the Mavs, who played without Kristaps Porzingis for the fourth straight game because of right knee soreness.

The Bulls lost forward Wendell Carter Jr. to an apparent right ankle injury with 8:25 left in the third quarter.

Lauri Markkanen led the Bulls with 26 points, starting the game despite spraining his left ankle Saturday against Boston.

Alabama's Tagovailoa entering 2020 NFL draft

By JOHN ZENOR
AP Sports Writer

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Alabama quarterback Tua Tagovailoa put an end to the initial question about his future, announcing Monday that he is entering the NFL draft and closing the book on a college career that began with a splash and ended with a devastating injury.

Now the questions will be about where he'll be drafted not if he would turn pro.

Tagovailoa is recovering from right hip surgery in November following an injury on Nov. 16 against Mississippi State that ended projections of the start quarterback being the potential No. 1 overall pick. The serious injury made has made his draft status less clear though Alabama team surgeon Dr. Lyle Cain has said Tagovailoa's prognosis is "excellent" and predicts a full recovery.

Tagovailoa said during a news conference that he's optimistic he'll be able to play next season, but said it's hard to predict how high he'll be drafted.

"It's a unique situation, for sure," Tagovailoa said with his parents and little brother, Taulia, watching from the front row. "A lot of the guys, the general managers, the owners, that I've talked to kind of said the same thing. They kind of look at this injury like a knee injury almost, although it's not. In a way that, OK, are we going to take a chance on this guy or will he be able to possibly do a pro day before the draft and what-not?

TAGOVAILOA

"Really, the biggest thing they want to do is just see that we can move and we can just be back to how we were playing prior to the injury."

This year's draft class of quarterbacks includes LSU Heisman Trophy winner Joe Burrow and Oregon's Justin Herbert. If Tagovailoa had returned to Alabama and looked like his old self, there was still no guarantee he would be the top pick in a 2021 draft that will likely include Clemson's Trevor Lawrence.

Tagovailoa, the 2018 Heisman Trophy runner-up, helped Alabama navigate the transition into one of the nation's top passing offenses. In less than two seasons as starter, he set an Alabama record with 87 career touchdown passes and ranks third with 7,442 passing yards.

He was regarded as one of the top Heisman candidates again before the season-ending injury. In his absence, Alabama lost to rival Auburn and failed to make the College Football Playoffs for the first time.

"Tua has probably had as much of an impact on our program here as any player that we've ever had," Crimson Tide coach Nick Saban said. "And I'm not just talking about as a football player. He's got great character. He's a great leader. He's done a wonderful job in the classroom.

"There's a spirit about him that has impacted myself and everybody around him in a very, very positive way."

Tagovailoa, who went to New York to have his hip examined over the weekend, acknowledged the uncertainty of his draft status. He'll continue to rehab in Tuscaloosa.

Tagovailoa demurred when asked if he felt confident he'd still be a high first-round pick.

"I don't think I can tell you that," he said. "I don't think any of the teams can tell you that. It really depends on how the doctors' report goes with the MRI and my X-rays at the three-month mark (from the injury).

"But then again, I think what factors into this decision, too, is our faith. It's a leap of it."

BOWLING

KELLEY'S BOWL

BERRIEN GUTTER GALS – Gladys Hunter 543 (208), Donna Bauman 514, Heather Garrison 486, Gloria Hess 477, Kim Keith 471. Team score: Nash 1,355 (500).

FRIDAY NITE MIXED – Richard Kelemen 694 (267), Heather Garrison 516 (179), Michele Briney 508 (191). Team scores: Regulators 2240 (796), Strokers 2191 (750).

WILDLIFE SENIORS – Dasn Symonds 713 (259), Randy Newboles 688, Mike Duensing 682, Jill Wilkens 661 (236), Paul Koth 649, Bob Conrad 645, Jodi Smith 585 (214), Nancy John 514, Losha Price 513, Nancy Pinkerton 505.

SUNDAY MILLER LITE MIXED – Mark Pullins 820 (299), Justin Wade 639, AJ Poole 620 (255), Corey Fister 614, Brandon Rath 573, Emily Rietz 494.

AREA SCHEDULE

Today
Boys basketball
Benton Harbor at Battle Creek Central, 7
Dowagiac at Lakeshore, 7
Bridgman at Lawrence, 7
River Valley at Holland Cavalry, 7
Paw Paw at Coloma, 7
Berrien Springs at Three Rivers, 7:15
Gobles at South Haven, 7:15
Niles at New Buffalo, 7:30
Fennville at Brandywine, 7:30
Michigan Lutheran at Kal. Heritage Christian, 7:30
Decatur at Cassopolis, 7:30
Bangor at Hartford, 7:30
Eau Claire at Mendon, 7:30
Bloomingdale at Centreville, 7:30
Girls basketball
Battle Creek Central at Benton Harbor, 7
Three Rivers at Berrien Springs, 7
New Buffalo at Watervliet, 7
St. Joseph at Otsego, 7:15
Cassopolis at Decatur, 7:30
Mendon at Eau Claire, 7:30
Hartford at Bangor, 7:30
Centreville at Bloomingdale, 7:30
Boys swimming
South Haven at Marshall, 6
Competitive cheer
Coloma at Gobles, 6

Wednesday, Jan. 8
Girls basketball
Buchanan at Niles, 7
Coloma at Bridgman, 7:30
Wrestling
Niles at St. Joseph, 6
Dowagiac, Edwardsburg, Paw Paw at South Haven, 5:30
Watervliet, Coloma, Galesburg-Augusta at Lawton, 6
River Valley, Decatur at Cassopolis, 6
Eau Claire, Bangor, Bloomingdale at Hartford, 6
Bowling
Bronson at Coloma, 3:30
College basketball
Glen Oaks CC at LMC men, 7:30
Glen Oaks CC at LMC women, 5:30

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

AREA STANDINGS
BOYS

SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
West Division

	Div	Overall
Portage Central	1-0	4-0
Lakeshore	1-0	3-0
Niles	1-0	1-3
Portage Northern	0-1	1-2
St. Joseph	0-1	1-4
Mattawan	0-1	0-3

East Division

	Div	Overall
Kal. Central	1-0	2-2
Gull Lake	1-0	2-2
BC Lakeview	0-0	4-0
Kal. Loy Norrix	0-1	2-4
BC Central	0-1	1-4

WOLVERINE CONFERENCE
North Division

	Div	Overall
Otsego	1-0	6-1
Paw Paw	1-0	4-1
Allegan	0-0	0-5
South Haven	0-1	2-2
Plainwell	0-1	0-4

South Division

	Div	Overall
Edwardsburg	1-0	3-2
Dowagiac	1-0	2-3
Vicksburg	0-0	2-2
Three Rivers	0-1	2-2
Sturgis	0-1	2-2

BERRIEN-CASS-ST. JOSEPH CONFERENCE
Red Division

	Div	Overall
Brandywine	2-0	4-0
Buchanan	1-1	3-1
Bridgman	1-1	4-2
Parchment	1-1	2-3
Comstock	1-1	1-2
Berrien Springs	0-2	2-2

White Division

	Div	Overall
River Valley	3-0	5-1
New Buffalo	2-0	2-0
Howardsville Christian	2-1	3-2
Michigan Lutheran	1-1	1-1
Countryside	1-1	1-2
Lawrence	1-2	2-3
Lake Michigan Catholic	1-3	1-3
Covert	0-3	0-3

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
Lakeshore Division

	Div	Overall
Gobles	2-0	4-0
Fennville	2-0	4-0
Coloma	1-1	2-2
Martin	1-1	1-3
Watervliet	0-2	2-3
Saugatuck	0-2	1-3

Valley Division

	Div	Overall
Schoolcraft	2-0	5-0
Kal. Christian	2-0	3-2
Kal. Hackett	1-0	2-2
Constantine	1-1	2-2
Galesburg-Augusta	0-1	1-2
Delton Kellogg	0-2	2-2
Lawton	0-2	0-4

SOUTHWEST 10 CONFERENCE

	Conf	Overall
Bloomingdale	2-0	4-0
Marcellus	2-0	3-0
Cassopolis	2-0	2-1
Eau Claire	1-1	2-1
Centreville	1-1	2-1
Hartford	1-1	1-2
White Pigeon	1-1	1-2
Mendon	0-2	0-2
Bangor	0-2	0-3
Decatur	0-2	0-3

INDEPENDENT

	Overall
Benton Harbor	6-1

GIRLS
SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
West Division

	Div	Overall
Portage Central	2-0	4-1
Niles	2-0	3-1
St. Joseph	2-0	3-3
Mattawan	0-2	3-3
Lakeshore	0-2	1-3
Portage Northern	0-2	1-4

East Division

	Div	Overall
Gull Lake	1-0	3-2
Kal. Central	1-0	3-4
BC Central	1-1	5-2
BC Lakeview	0-1	3-3
Kal. Loy Norrix	0-1	2-4

WOLVERINE CONFERENCE
North Division

	Div	Overall
Plainwell	2-0	3-1
Otsego	1-1	3-3
South Haven	1-1	1-5
Allegan	0-1	2-4
Paw Paw	0-1	1-4

South Division

	Div	Overall
Three Rivers	2-0	5-0
Edwardsburg	1-1	5-1
Sturgis	1-1	4-4
Vicksburg	0-1	3-3
Dowagiac	0-1	0-5

BERRIEN-CASS-ST. JOSEPH CONFERENCE
Red Division

	Div	Overall
Brandywine	3-0	6-0
Buchanan	3-0	6-0
Berrien Springs	2-1	4-2
Comstock	1-2	1-3
Bridgman	0-3	1-6
Parchment	0-3	0-8

White Division

	Div	Overall
Michigan Lutheran	4-0	6-0
River Valley	3-1	4-3
New Buffalo	3-1	4-1
Lake Michigan Catholic	2-2	3-2
Lawrence	2-2	2-6
Howardsville Christian	1-3	1-3
Covert	0-3	0-3
Countryside	0-3	0-3

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE
Lakeshore Division

	Div	Overall
Gobles	2-0	6-0
Martin	2-0	6-0
Fennville	2-0	4-2
Saugatuck	0-2	2-4
Watervliet	0-2	1-5
Coloma	0-2	0-6

Valley Division

	Div	Overall
Schoolcraft	2-0	3-1
Kal. Christian	2-0	4-2
Kal. Hackett	1-0	3-2
Constantine	1-1	3-3
Galesburg-Augusta	0-1	3-3
Delton Kellogg	0-2	3-3
Lawton	0-2	0-6

SOUTHWEST 10 CONFERENCE

	Conf	Overall
Centreville	4-0	6-0
Bloomingdale	4-0	4-2
Decatur	3-1	5-1
Marcellus	3-1	4-1
Hartford	2-3	3-2
White Pigeon	2-2	3-3
Cassopolis	1-2	1-2
Mendon	0-3	1-3
Bangor	0-4	1-4
Eau Claire	0-4	0-5

INDEPENDENT

	Overall
Benton Harbor	1-5

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

The Men's Top Twenty Five

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 5, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Gonzaga (54)	16-1	1607	1
2. Duke (9)	13-1	1545	2
3. Kansas (2)	11-2	1513	3
4. Baylor	11-1	1386	6
5. Auburn	13-0	1317	8
6. Butler	14-1	1181	11
7. San Diego St.	15-0	1130	13
8. Michigan St.	12-3	1129	14
9. Oregon	12-3	1075	4
10. Florida St.	13-2	966	18
11. Ohio St.	11-3	924	5
12. Maryland	12-2	863	15
13. Louisville	11-3	844	7
14. Kentucky	10-3	811	17
15. Dayton	13-2	614	20
16. Villanova	10-3	604	10
17. West Virginia	11-2	599	16
18. Virginia	11-2	556	19
19. Michigan	10-4	502	12
20. Penn St.	12-2	456	21
21. Memphis	12-2	455	9
22. Texas Tech	10-3	287	22
23. Wichita St.	13-1	252	24
24. Arizona	11-3	184	25
25. Colorado	12-3	81	-

Others receiving votes: Iowa 63, Seton Hall 48, Arkansas 38, Marquette 25, Xavier 18, Wisconsin 17, Houston 8, Creighton 6, Washington 6, VCU 5, Saint Mary's (Cal) 3, N Iowa 2, Liberty 2, Purdue 1, Stephen F Austin 1, BYU 1.

The Women's Top Twenty Five

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 5, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. UConn (19)	12-0	721	1
2. Oregon (7)	12-1	708	2
3. Oregon St. (3)	14-0	682	3
4. South Carolina (1)	14-1	669	4
5. Stanford	13-1	626	5
6. Baylor	11-1	614	6
7. Louisville	14-1	574	7
8. UCLA	14-0	531	10
9. N.C. State	14-0	529	9
10. Texas A& M	13-1	468	11
11. Florida St.	14-1	465	8
12. Indiana	12-2	389	14
13. Mississippi St.	14-2	371	15
14. Kentucky	12-2	367	13
15. DePaul	13-2	316	16
16. Gonzaga	14-1	303	17
17. Maryland	10-3	278	12
18. Arizona	13-1	243	18
19. West Virginia	11-1	239	19
20. Missouri St.	12-2	155	21
21. Arkansas	13-2	150	20
22. South Dakota	15-2	92	—
23. Tennessee	11-3	89	22
24. Michigan	11-3	71	—
25. Princeton	12-1	19	—

Others receiving votes: Northwestern 18, Rutgers 14, Iowa 10, Syracuse 9, TCU 9, Miami 6, Florida Gulf Coast 5, Arizona St. 3, Minnesota 2, Nebraska 2, Texas 2, Kansas 1.

NFL

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 4
Houston 22, Buffalo 19, OT
Tennessee 20, New England 13
Sunday, Jan. 5
Minnesota 26, New Orleans 20, OT
Seattle 17, Philadelphia 9
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 11
Minnesota at San Francisco, 4:35 p.m. (NBC)
Tennessee at Baltimore, 8:15 p.m (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 12
Houston at Kansas City, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
Seattle at Green Bay, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 19
AFC, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)
Pro Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 26
AFC vs. NFC, 3 p.m. (ESPN)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 2
NFC champion vs. AFC champion, 6:30 p.m. (FOX)

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Selected the contract of OF Luis Robert from Charlotte (IL).
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Acquired RHP Kyle Keller from Miami for C Jose Estrada. Designated RHP Jake Jewell for assignment.
Eastern League
BINGHAMTON RUMBLE PONIES — Named Lorenzo Bundy manager, Luis Rivera bench coach and Tanner Miracle performance coach.

SPARTANS

From page B1

team was shaken by the death of Winston's brother in November.

Losses to Virginia Tech and Duke — the latter of which was a double-digit defeat at home — dropped the Spartans' record to a very ordinary 5-3, but they haven't lost since, and now they're the only Big Ten team without a defeat in conference play.

Michigan State began this calendar year with a 76-56 win over Illinois, and followed that with the victory over Michigan. Winston was brilliant against the Wolverines, and Tillman had 20 points, 11 rebounds and six blocks. Nobody else scored more than eight points for the Spartans, but they shot 53% from the field and went 7 of 15 from 3-point range.

"Two months ago, I thought we would be probably where we are now, then," Izzo said. "We were disjointed and we were just battling and I said then that if you can make it through something like this, sometimes it bonds a team."

Izzo warned against getting too carried away with the impressive start to conference play. The only road game Michigan State has played in league play was against last-place Northwestern, and that was just a five-point win.

The convincing victories over Illinois and Michigan were at home, and this week the Spartans will stay in East Lansing when they host Minnesota on Thursday night.

As good as the Spartans may feel after shining against Michigan, it's still early.

"It's a great matchup and always a great win for us, but it's not the end of anything," Winston said. "I think we play them again."

That will be Feb. 8 in Ann Arbor. Michigan State will try for its fifth straight win over the Wolverines.

"We won three last year and we kept the chip on our shoulder and I thought the Duke game maybe we didn't keep the chip on our shoulder," Izzo said. "That's how you grow as the season goes on. You learn from your mistakes and you try to make adjustments to do some things."

WOLVERINES

From page B1

that shots will go in regardless of if it does or doesn't.

"We just gotta be confident. I see those guys working every day in practice knocking down a lot of open shots. They're working their tails off, after or before practice. I just gotta be confident in the shots I take and trust that those shots are gonna go in."

The lack of spacing, coupled with a hesitancy to take outside shots, handicapped Michigan's offense and forced the Wolverines to emphasize post play. And while that worked early, it became less effective as the game continued. There were some instances, the Wolverines said, when post touches led to open shots – but those shots weren't hoisted.

"I think there were some other opportunities where I thought we had some good paint touches to kickoff 3s that we could've had," said assistant coach Saddi Washington. "Again, we'll watch the tape and we'll learn from it, and we'll be ready for it next time."

Added Teske: "Lot of open shots I don't think we took. We kind of held the ball, dribbled, pulled up jumpers. Instead of just kinda shooting the 3-ball. That's another place you go back to kinda just being confident in yourself when you got the open shot, you take it. Open shots, we trust in you to make that shot. Even if you don't have anything, when they close on you, you drive or you kick it. But they just gotta be confident in the shots they take."

U-M gave credit to Michigan State's defense for closing out on shooters quickly and playing effective defense. But the Wolverines felt they missed out on some opportunities to cash in from outside.

"You've just got to believe you can make it," Washington said. "It's definitely not a lack of ability. But you've got to step up and shoot the ball with confidence."

ZADINA

From page B1

get out on the forecheck – for a skilled guy to do all that, that's going to help our team immensely."

There hasn't been much to celebrate this season – the Wings are 10-30-3, by far the worst record in the NHL – and though they work hard and put in a good effort, they also undermine themselves. Zadina and Glendening scored in the first period, but in a 45-second span in the second period, the Blackhawks evened the score.

"We shoot ourselves in the foot for no reason," Blashill said. "We played stupid hockey in the second. Our puck management was terrible as the game went along.

"We won't be better until we understand that we have to stop beating ourselves. That's the first step we have to take at some point in order to be better."

The Wings haven't told Zadina, 20, whether he is staying for the season, but for the most part, he isn't giving them a reason to return him to Grand Rapids.

The Wings don't have much offensively, and Zadina's 10 points is tied with Dylan Larkin for second on the team since Nov. 24. Five of Zadina's points are on the power play.

"He's a good player, has a lot of skill," Valtteri Filppula said. "His goal was a really nice shot. I think he is going to have a really bright future."

Zadina sounded frustrated about the losing, describing it as "tough to play right now. We're not producing points as a team, so that is disappointing."

To hear his number called, though, when the game was on the line, was a vote of confidence. The Wings are short Anthony Mantha and Andreas Athanasiou, as both are out with injuries, but Zadina earned the chance to be on the ice at such a crucial moment. He had a couple looks, but didn't take a shot.

"I'm so glad I can get this opportunity to play with those guys in this moment when we are down one goal," Zadina said. "It was huge. We needed to score a goal. You have to play smart. You have to play without the goalie so every mistake counts a lot. You are trying to make some plays and then shoot the puck, you can't just shoot the puck right away. You have to think about it."

GRIFFIN

From page B1

more years and $76 million remaining on his contract, has missed the last four games, raising concern that his persistent knee injuries are more serious than previously thought.

Pistons team owner Tom Gores, asked about whether the team had considered shutting Griffin down for the remainder of the season, indicated that they hadn't made a determination yet but the hope was that he would improve.

"No, we're not that far, and we're just going to assess it in the next week or so," he said. "He's a trooper. If he could play, you know he'd be playing, so I think we just give him a few days of rest and see what happens."

The Pistons (13-24) have lost eight of their last 10 games and are three games behind the Charlotte Hornets for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

THOMAS

From page B1

Schauffele was eliminated with a three-putt par from 100 feet on the 18th in the playoff. Thomas had to watch Reed have two putts at the win, a 30-foot eagle putt on the first extra hole, a 12-foot birdie putt on the second extra hole. Reed missed them both, and Thomas finished him off on the final hole before darkness.

"That's what happens when you win," Thomas said. "Obviously, you have to play well and make some putts and hit some shots. But at the end of the day, you need stuff to go your way. And it definitely did today. And it feels great."

It was more crushing for Schauffele than for Reed, even though Reed had the last chance to win.

Schauffele had a one-shot lead going into the final round and was two shots ahead through seven holes when Thomas went on his big run with golf so pure that Schauffele said, "I'd like to see anyone else try it."

But it was right there for him at the end when Thomas chopped up the 18th hole.

The wind on the Plantation Course is most treacherous on the greens, with players having to guess if a 30 mph gust will knock putts offline or give them too much speed. That's what cost him on the 18th in regulation, and it cost Reed on the last two playoff holes.

"I should have won the tournament," Schauffele said, pausing to consider how wild the final hour really way. "JT was right there. But with the circumstances, I should have closed it out. I did everything I was supposed to until the last moment."

Reed also spoke to the gusts on his 12-foot birdie to win and 8-foot birdie to stay alive. What bothered him equally — at least based on the glare he shot to the gallery — was the fan who screamed, "CHEATER!" after he hit his putt on the third playoff hole. Thomas says he didn't hear it, presumably because he was locked into his own moment.

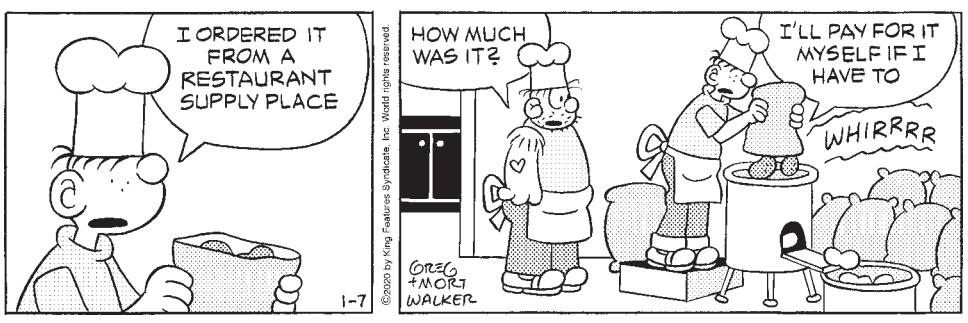
The reference was to Reed scooping away sand to improve his lie in the Bahamas, which was caught on video and shown to him after the round, leading to a two-shot penalty. Reed heard plenty more — and plenty worse — a week later from the Australian crowd at the Presidents Cup.

Thomas was more exhausted than elated, mainly because of the sharp swing in emotions at the end.

He carries momentum to the Sony Open in Honolulu, and perhaps the rest of the year and beyond. Thomas remains No. 4 in the world, but his record since June bears noting. He has not finished worse than a tie for 17th in his last 11 tournaments worldwide.

"It's not an accomplishment getting to 12," Thomas said. "It's an accomplishment winning today. But I'll have fun with my family and celebrate it tonight. And next week, we try to get 13."

BEETLE BAILEY


I ORDERED IT FROM A RESTAURANT SUPPLY PLACE
1-7
HOW MUCH WAS IT?
I'LL PAY FOR IT MYSELF IF I HAVE TO
WHIRRRR
GREG + MORT WALKER
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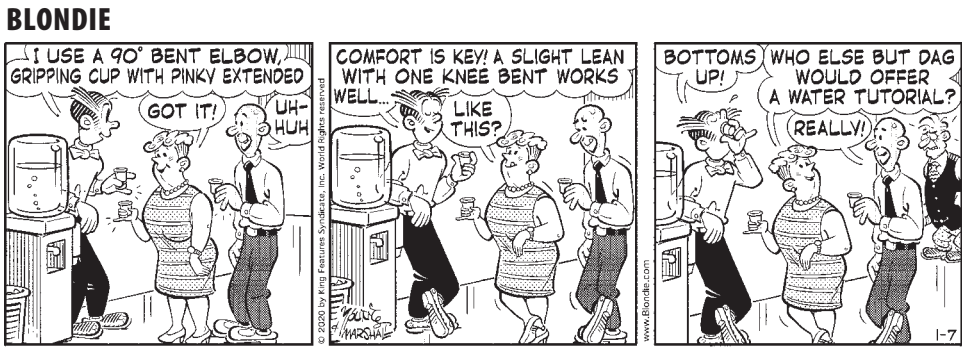
BLONDIE


I USE A 90° BENT ELBOW, GRIPPING CUP WITH PINKY EXTENDED
GOT IT!
UH-HUH
COMFORT IS KEY! A SLIGHT LEAN WITH ONE KNEE BENT WORKS WELL...
LIKE THIS?
BOTTOMS UP!
WHO ELSE BUT DAG WOULD OFFER A WATER TUTORIAL?
REALLY!
1-7
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www.Blondie.com

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

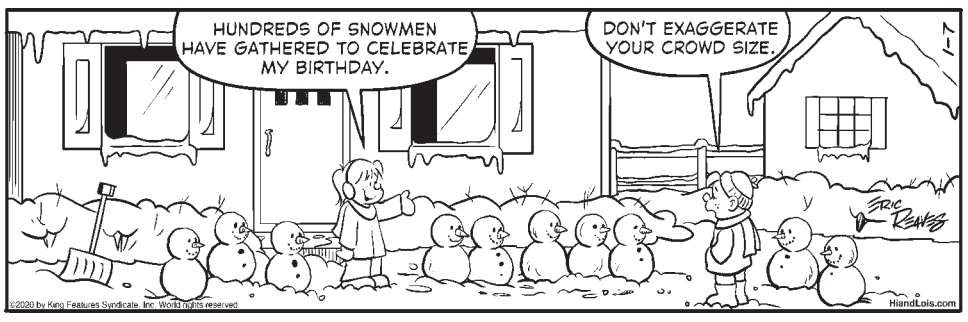
By Bil Keane

"I feel like I'm inside a dragon."

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I DON'T BLAME YOU IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE.... I GOT THIS."

HI & LOIS


HUNDREDS OF SNOWMEN HAVE GATHERED TO CELEBRATE MY BIRTHDAY.
DON'T EXAGGERATE YOUR CROWD SIZE.
1-7
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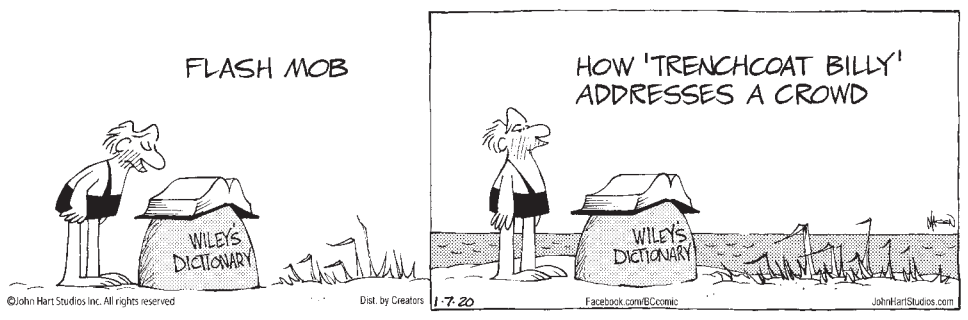
HiandLois.com

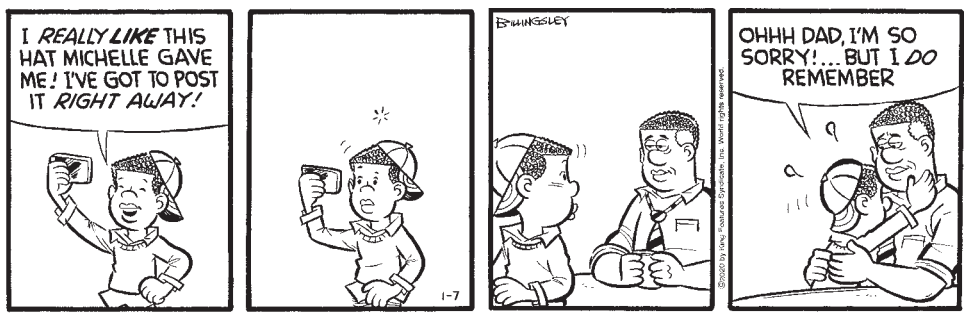
BABY BLUES

STILL LOOKING FOR A JOB?
YEP. STILL LOOKING.
OH! YOU COULD START A YOUTUBE CHANNEL! I HEAR THOSE PEOPLE MAKE BIG BUCKS!
IF ONLY YOU WERE COOL...
IF ONLY...
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

BC



CURTIS


I REALLY LIKE THIS HAT MICHELLE GAVE ME! I'VE GOT TO POST IT RIGHT AWAY!
1-7
B WINGSLEY
OHHH DAD, I'M SO SORRY!... BUT I DO REMEMBER
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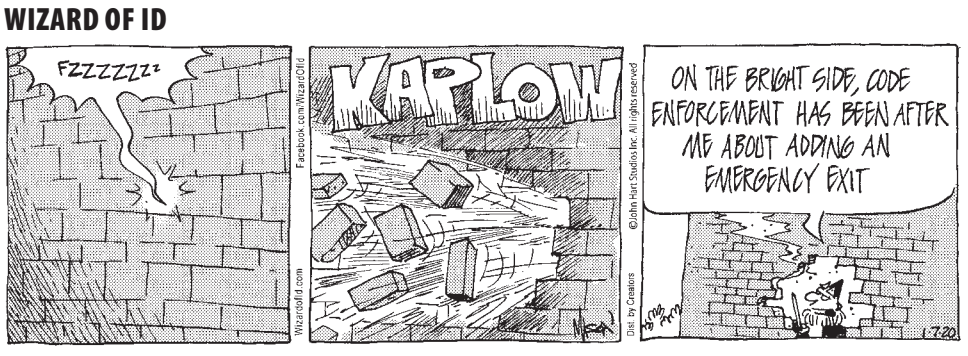
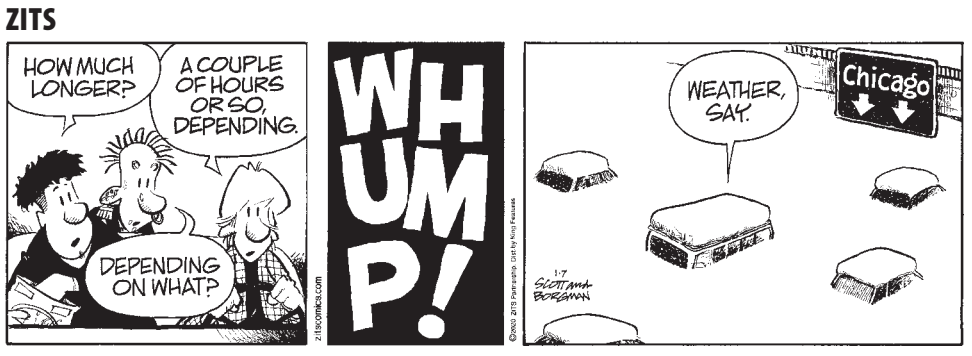
WIZARD OF ID



ZITS



DILBERT

MY BOSS IS ACCUSING ME OF NOT KNOWING WHAT HE WAS THINKING.
I NEED YOU TO BE MY LAWYER AND HANDLE MY APPEAL TO THE COURT OF STUPIDITY.
COURT OF STUPIDITY
THE COURT RULES IN FAVOR OF THE BAILIFF.
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
1-7-20 2020 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

MY HOUSE IS ALWAYS CROWDED WITH GUESTS THIS TIME OF YEAR!
BUT THE HOLIDAY SEASON IS OVER!
IT'S HUNTING SEASON!
BE KIND TO ANIMALS
Z
1-7
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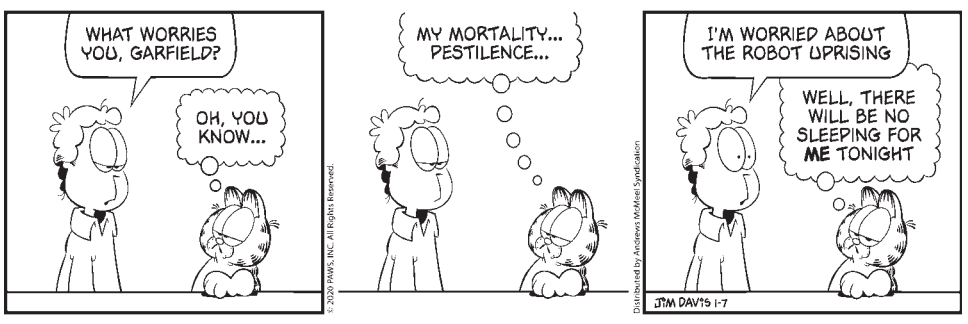
GARFIELD


WHAT WORRIES YOU, GARFIELD?
OH, YOU KNOW...
MY MORTALITY... PESTILENCE...
I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE ROBOT UPRISING
WELL, THERE WILL BE NO SLEEPING FOR ME TONIGHT
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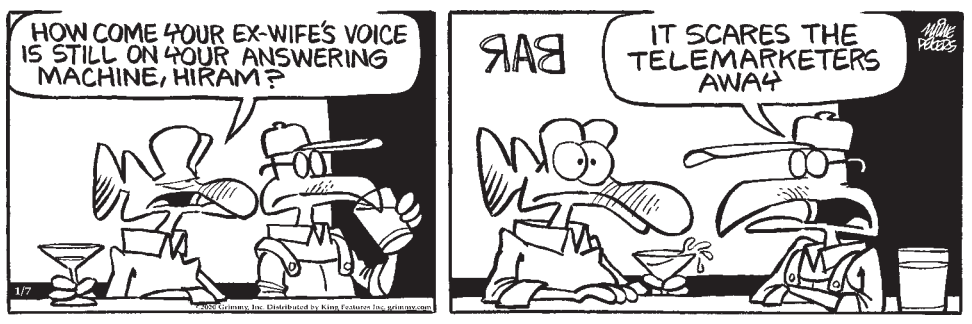
JIM DAVIS 1-7

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM


HOW COME YOUR EX-WIFE'S VOICE IS STILL ON YOUR ANSWERING MACHINE, HIRAM?
1/7
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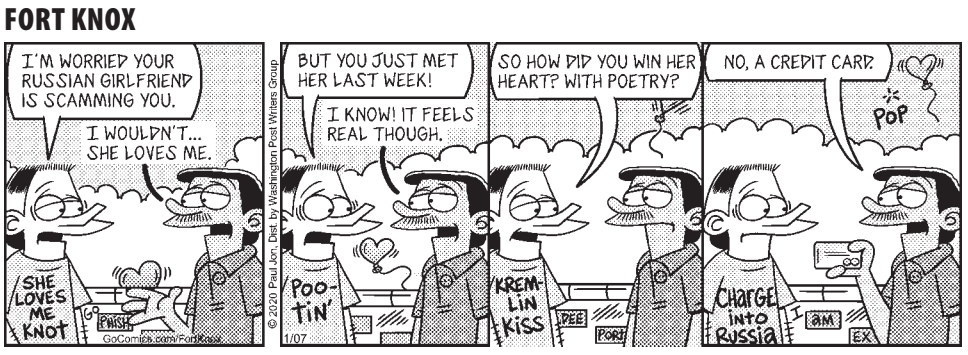
BAR
IT SCARES THE TELEMARKETERS AWAY
MIKE PEKERS

FORT KNOX


I'M WORRIED YOUR RUSSIAN GIRLFRIEND IS SCAMMING YOU.
I WOULDN'T... SHE LOVES ME.
SHE LOVES ME KNOT
BUT YOU JUST MET HER LAST WEEK!
I KNOW! IT FEELS REAL THOUGH.
POO-TIN'
SO HOW DID YOU WIN HER HEART? WITH POETRY?
KREM-LIN KISS
NO, A CREDIT CARD.
POP
CHARGE into Russia
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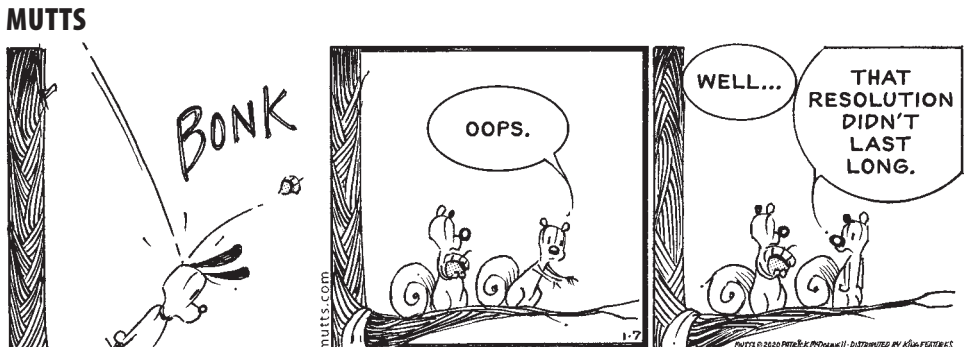
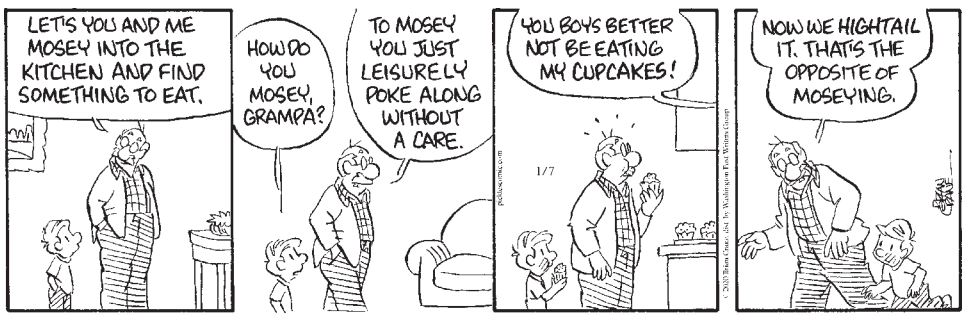
1/07
GoComics.com/FortKnox

MUTTS



PICKLES


LET'S YOU AND ME MOSEY INTO THE KITCHEN AND FIND SOMETHING TO EAT.
HOW DO YOU MOSEY, GRAMPA?
TO MOSEY YOU JUST LEISURELY POKE ALONG WITHOUT A CARE.
YOU BOYS BETTER NOT BE EATING MY CUPCAKES!
1/7
NOW WE HIGHTAIL IT. THAT'S THE OPPOSITE OF MOSEYING.
pickles@gocomics.com

SALLY FORTH

I WAS THINKING THIS HOUSE COULD USE A LITTLE MAKEOVER.
BUT WE'RE TRYING TO KEEP COSTS DOWN AFTER THE NEW PATIO, PLUS WE'RE ON A SINGLE INCOME FOR RIGHT NOW.
I'M NOT TALKING ANYTHING BIG. JUST REARRANGE THE LIVING ROOM FURNITURE. MAYBE RECONSIDER THE AREA RUG...
1-7
NOT TO MENTION THE FLOORING. AND WOULDN'T RECESSED LIGHTING BE NICE? AND...
HOW ABOUT WE START WITH TAKING DOWN THE CHRISTMAS TREE AND THEN IN A FEW WEEKS THE ICICLE LIGHTS I STAPLED OUTSIDE.
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KEEFE

Prime Time TV

TUESDAY EVENING JAN. 7

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! The Greatest of All Time		mixed-ish (N)	black-ish (N)	Emergence "15 Years" (N)	
CBS 2 3 22	Ent. Tonight	NCIS Gibbs faces the reality of his actions.		FBI "Fallout" A businessman is killed. (N)		FBI: Most Wanted "Dopesick" CC	
NBC 5 8 16	Ac. Hollywood	Ellen's Game of Games CC		Ellen's Game of Games (N) CC		:01 Zoey's Extraordinary Playlist (N)	
FOX 17 222 28 32	Modern Family	The Resident "Free Fall" (N)		Gordon Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS 34	Steves' Europe	Finding Your Roots With Henry		Frontline Border crisis in El Paso, Texas.		Dave Chappelle: The Mark Twain Prize (N)	
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	Batwoman CC		Black Lightning CC		News	Seinfeld CC
MNT 50	Family Feud	Chicago P.D. "Wrong Side of the Bars"		Chicago P.D. "Erin's Mom" CC		Chicago P.D. "What Do You Do" CC	
WCIU 26	Mike & Molly	Batwoman CC		Black Lightning CC		2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls
WHME 45	:00 Heartland	Heartland "Win, Place or Show"		Highway to Heaven CC		The List (N) CC	Celebrity Page (N)
WGN 9	News	black-ish	black-ish CC	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L) CC	
A&E	:00 The First 48	The First 48 CC		The First 48: Shocking Interrogations		The First 48: Shocking Interrogations (N)	
AMC	3:30 Titanic	★★★ The Hunger Games ('12) Jennifer Lawrence. In a dystopian society, teens fight to the death on live TV. CC					
Animal	Lone Star	:01 Treehouse Masters: Branched Out (N)				Barnwood Builders	
BET	6:00 ★ Alex Cross ('12)			Tyler Perry's The Single Moms Club			
Big Ten	College Basketball			College Basketball Iowa at Nebraska. (N)			
Bravo	Vanderpump Rul	Vanderpump Rules "Reunion Part 3"		Vanderpump Rules Sandoval skips one of Jax's events. CC			Vanderpump Rul
Cartoon	Infinity	American	American	Burgers	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy
Cinemax	Jumpin' Jack	★★ Tag ('18, Comedy) Ed Helms, Jon Hamm. CC			:45 ★★ Without a Paddle ('04, Comedy) Seth Green. CC		
CMT	Last Man	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom
CNBC	Shark	Shark Tank CC		Shark Tank		The Profit (N) CC	
CNN	OutFront	Anderson Cooper		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight	
Comedy	Office	Office	Office	Drunk	Drunk	Drunk	Drunk
Discovery	:00 Moonshiners	Moonshiners: Outlaw Cuts (N) CC		Moonshiners Two shiners get busted.		Guardians of the Glades (N) CC	
Disney	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Gabby	Sydney	Just Roll	Coop	Sydney
DIY	Bargain	Building Off the Grid		Building Off the Grid		Building Off the Grid	
E!	★★ Step Up ('06) Channing Tatum.				★★★ Dirty Dancing ('87)		
ESPN	College Basketball Teams TBA.			College Basketball Teams TBA. (N) (L)			
ESPN2	College Basketball Teams TBA.			College Basketball Teams TBA. (N) (L)			
ESPNC	:00 Tennis From Jan. 29, 2012.					Tennis	
Food	Chopped	Chopped CC		Chopped (N) CC		Chopped CC	
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N) CC		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	NHL Hockey Montreal Canadiens at Detroit Red Wings.					Red Wings Live (N)	
Freefrm	Pretty in Pink ('86)	★★★ The Blind Side ('09) Sandra Bullock, Tim McGraw. A well-to-do white couple adopts a homeless black teen. CC					
FX	★★ Passengers	★★★ Avatar ('09, Science Fiction) Sam Worthington. A former Marine falls in love with a native of a lush alien world. CC					
Golf	:00 ★★ Tommy's Honour ('16)				★★ Tommy's Honour		
Hallmark	All of My Heart	Unleashing Mr. Darcy ('16, Romance) Ryan Paevey, Cindy Busby. CC				Snowcoming ('19) Lindy Booth.	
HBO	Les Misérables	★★ The Aftermath ('19) Keira Knightley, Alexander Skarsgard. CC				9:50 ★★ The Little Stranger ('18)	
History	Oak Is	Digging Deeper		Curse-Island		:03 Kings of Pain (N)	
HGTV	Hunters	Home Town CC		Fixer to Fabulous (N)		Move and Improve	
Learning	Fabulous	My Big Fat Fabulous Life				Hot & Heavy	
Lifetime	Walk-Remembr	★★ The Holiday ('06) Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet. Two women from different countries swap homes at Christmas. CC					
MSNBC	Hardball	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Siesta	Siesta Key (N) CC		Teen Mom: Young		Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Sports	Pregame	NHL Hockey Calgary Flames at Chicago Blackhawks.				
NFL	NFL Total	NFL Football AFC or NFC Wild Card: Teams TBA. CC					
Nick	Loud	Sponge.	Sponge.	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Life Be	Ice Breakers		Life Below Zero (N)		Running Wild	
Oxygen	:00 Chicago P.D.	Chicago P.D. "Erin's Mom" CC		Chicago P.D. "What Do You Do" CC		Chicago P.D. CC	
Parmt	★ Grown Ups ('10, Comedy) Adam Sandler. CC					Ink Master (N) CC	
Showtime	Total Recall ('90)	Ray Donovan "Passport and a Gun"		Inside the NFL (N) CC		Shameless Frank goes back in time.	
Starz	:04 ★★ Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins ('08) CC			Power Dre is framed by Ghost for murder.		:01 ★★ I Spy ('02) Eddie Murphy.	
STZENC	:17 ★★★ Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams ('02)			★★ You Again ('10) Kristen Bell, Jamie Lee Curtis, Sigourney Weaver. CC			
SyFy	6:30 ★★ G.I. Joe: Retaliation ('13) Dwayne Johnson.			★★ Ghost in the Shell ('17) Scarlett Johansson, Pilou Asbaek. CC			
TBS	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory
TCM	Honeysuckle	★★★ The Fountainhead ('49) Gary Cooper, Patricia Neal. CC (DVS)				★★ Bright Leaf ('50) CC	
TMC	Lars and Girl	★★★★ When Harry Met Sally... ('89) Billy Crystal. CC			:45 ★★ Jenny's Wedding ('15) Katherine Heigl. CC		
TNT	Gone	★★ London Has Fallen ('16, Action)				★ Geostorm	
Travel	Dead	The Dead Files (N) CC				Famously Afraid (N)	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Everybody Raymond		Raymond	King	King
USA	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	
VH1	Hip Hop	Wild/Out	Wild/Out	Wild/Out	Wild/Out	Wild/Out	Wild/Out
WGN-A	:00 ★★★ Jurassic Park ('93, Adventure) Sam Neill, Laura Dern, Jeff Goldblum. CC					★★ The Lost World: Jurassic Park	

Man's family treats him as a second-class citizen

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to a wonderful man for 33 years. He doesn't drink or smoke and has never used pot or drugs. We have the best time together, love each other and enjoy our life together.

The trouble is his family. He's the youngest, and they treat him like an outsider. Whenever we get together, his mother often tells him he was a "surprise" baby, and his siblings treat him like an interloper.

I have been wanting to limit our contact with his family, and my husband, who has been loyal to them even though they treat him this way, is finally coming around. I don't want to be rude, but his family will never change their ways. What's the most polite way of distancing ourselves without hurting anyone? – Outsider's Wife

DEAR WIFE: The "polite way" is to tell the relatives you can't see them because you have a schedule conflict, a previous commitment, a trip planned, a sick pet, or think you may be coming down with something contagious and don't want to give it to them. The BETTER way would be for you AND YOUR HUSBAND to tell them you don't like the way they treat him and if it continues, they will see much less of both of you.

DEAR ABBY: I have been at my current job just over a year, and I really enjoy it. My co-workers and I get along, and it is a great job for my skill set.

Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

When I was interviewing for the position, I made a point of saying that I am not the type of person who will leave after a short while because it's a problem employers face where I live. Recently, however, I have been asked to help my father run his business. He's not a young man, and he genuinely needs the help I can provide.

I'm torn. Should I put my family first, or keep my promise not to leave this job after such a short time? – Torn In Colorado

DEAR TORN: I think you already know what you must do. Talk to your boss, explain the situation and apologize. Then give enough notice that a replacement can be found so you are not leaving your employer in the lurch.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I recently lost our beloved pet of 12 years, "Bootsy." He was our first "fur baby." His death was very sudden, and we are devastated. We don't have children; it was as if he was our firstborn. What can we do to get through the death of our beloved dog-child? – Suffering In The South

DEAR SUFFERING: I am sorry for your loss. An unfortunate aspect of being emotionally invested in a pet is the reality that they have much shorter lifespans than humans do. Start the healing process by reminding each other that you gave Bootsy the best life possible. Consider making a contribution in his name to an animal rescue organization. Then contact the veterinarian who cared for Bootsy about joining a grief support group to help you through this time of bereavement.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

In-laws expect handouts from high-earning daughter-in-law

Adapted from a recent online discussion.

DEAR CAROLYN: I am a litigation attorney at a great firm and feel lucky for a job I love (most of the time) that pays extremely well. It is also incredibly demanding, and will remain that way.

With the help of my supportive husband, I decided to take a different, less demanding job so I could spend more time with family.

When we started telling family members, my in-laws' first question was whether I would be taking a pay cut. Since I earned so much, we had paid for several vacations for my in-laws over the years, as well as car repairs and rent when they were low on money, and we helped pay for preschool for our nieces.

When we told them I would likely be taking a large pay cut, my mother-in-law asked whether we'd still be able to pay for vacations, and my brother-in-law said his daughters were counting on their "rich aunt" to pay for college.

My husband and I were both stunned. He made a comment that having me around more was worth more than the money to him, and his mom actually said, "Not to us."

She later apologized and said she was only worried about the financial implications of my decision, but I'm still incredibly hurt.

Also, I'm torn about my decision now. Did we inadvertently create the impression that I would always be able to help out financially? If so, is there a way to extricate ourselves from that expectation?

Carolyn Hax

Finally, any suggestions for getting over my hurt feelings? – Hurt

DEAR HURT: Wow. I mean, wow.

To cheer yourself up, consider celebrating that you can't afford to feed your parasites anymore.

The way past your hurt feelings is to recognize that your in-laws took your money and couldn't even summon the courtesy to pretend they care about you as a person. That, in turn, says the insult they just delivered doesn't say bad things about you, but instead reveals terrible things about them.

So for you to find their response hurtful is analogous to ... let's say, being hurt because your dog says you smell bad when his idea of smelling good involves rolling in decomposed squirrel.

You say you're torn about the job change now, and I beg you, please, don't be. You've done the right thing for you and for the only people who matter – meaning, those who care as much about your well-being as they care about their own.

If your in-laws ever wake themselves up enough to join those ranks, then, OK, good for everyone. Change is always possible.

As for the best way to "extricate ourselves"? The expectation is one they created, not you, so you have no further obligations. If your nieces are still in the preschool you pay for, then maybe work out a non-abrupt exit plan. And maybe privately keep a savings account set aside for future family expenses, since one of them may run aground.

Not that you ever need to use your money for your in-laws ever again – it's just that life holds surprises and you don't want them arriving when you're off-guard and broke.

Your husband actually said just the right thing. Coming from the family he did, that's something to celebrate, too.

Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

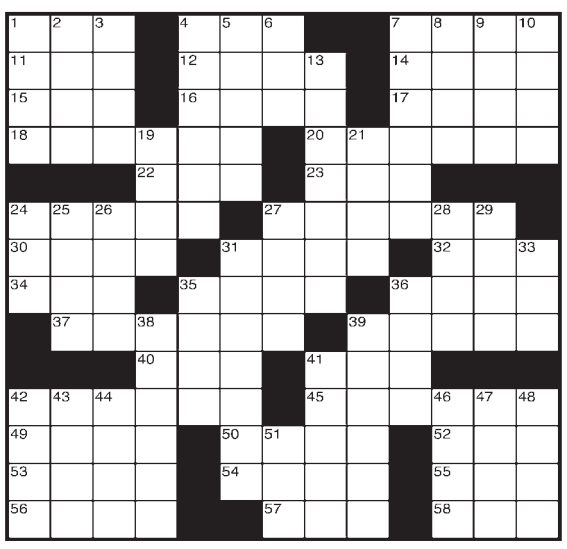
Crossword

ACROSS
1 Steal from
4 Airgun ammo
7 Typewriter type
11 Plumbing bend
12 Stadium noise
14 Famed prep school
15 Boxing great
16 Wight or Capri
17 Dog chow brand
18 White water
20 Like some arches
22 Pop-up
23 Fury
24 Entertainer Della —
27 Omitted in speech
30 As well as
31 USC rival
32 Chart shape
34 Shoe-wiping place
35 Does it wrong
36 Lake dwellers
37 Bahamas' capital
39 Watch noises
40 Hosp. employee
41 Term of endearment
42 Swimsuit
45 Pulled hard
49 Roman poet
50 Depletes
52 Role for Madonna
53 Road division
54 — julep
55 Author's need
56 Goals
57 Set in place
58 Writing fluid

DOWN
1 Emulate a bronco
2 Earthen jar
3 Radar screen image
4 Horse's gear
5 Imperious
6 Famed mule
7 Rang out
8 "— do for now"
9 Handle problems
10 Soon
13 Pharmacy requests
19 In that case (2 wds.)
21 Opera tune
24 Barnyard animal
25 Gusto
26 Is, to Pedro
27 Light brown
28 Homer's "Aeneid," for one
29 Platter
31 Nuclear reactor fuel
33 Codgers' queries
35 "WNBA Tuesday" airer
36 Lapp neighbor
38 Playground gear
39 Nice and warm
41 "Laughing" animal
42 Tree trunk
43 Dreaded czar
44 Good-natured
46 Military cap
47 Uniform
48 Wet and chilly
51 RSVP word

Answer to Previous Puzzle

W	I	G			C	O	O	S		S	E	A
A	D	O	S		U	T	A	H		W	R	Y
Y	E	L	P		E	T	R	E		A	G	E
S	A	F	A	R	I			A	B	Y	S	S
			D	A	N		A	R	I			
A	L	I	E	N		E	M	E	N	D	S	
P	O	T	S		S	K	I	D		R	I	M
O	L	E		A	L	E	E		A	U	D	I
	A	M	A	Z	E	D		A	N	G	E	L
			C	A	D		R	O	N			
K	N	E	E	L			E	L	O	P	E	S
L	A	D		E	G	G	S		Y	O	D	A
E	N	E		A	P	P	T		S	O	N	Y
E	O	N		S	A	S	S			L	A	S



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Jumble

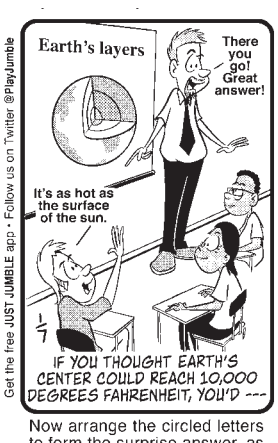
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RUYBL

CAXTE

OENDOW

CCLEKA


Earth's layers
There you go! Great answer!
It's as hot as the surface of the sun.
IF YOU THOUGHT EARTH'S CENTER COULD REACH 10,000 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT, YOU'D ---

Get the free JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here: ( ) " ( ) - ( ) "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: KNOWN WORLD ABACUS PICKET
Answer: With the dogs getting along so well together, going for a stroll was a — WALK IN THE PARK

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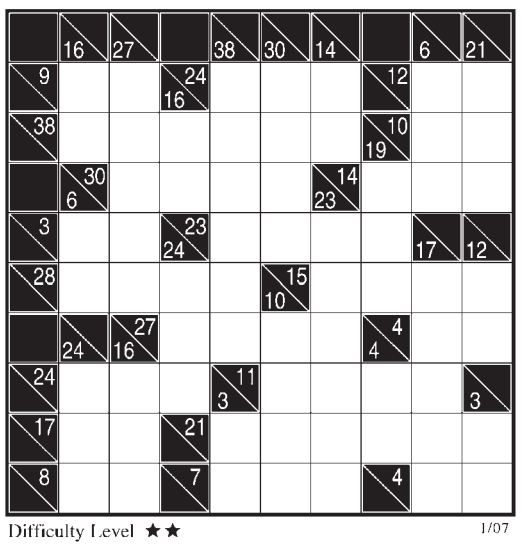
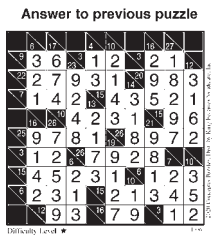
Kakuro



Difficulty Level ★★ 1/07

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.

Answer to previous puzzle



Bridge

Abe Lemons, who was a college basketball player and coach, said, "There are really only two plays: 'Romeo and Juliet' and put the darn ball in the basket."

In today's deal, look only at the North hand. South opens one diamond, North responds one spade, and South rebids two no-trump, showing a balanced 18 or 19 points. What should North do now?

Two no-trump is in principle game-forcing. But should the final contract be three no-trump or four spades?

Luckily, North-South had the right tool, and North showed excellent imagination. She rebid three clubs, New Minor Forcing. Then, when South answered with three spades to show three-card support, North continued with three no-trump, not four spades. This offered South a choice of games. (If North had had only four spades, she would have raised two no-trump to three. If North had been 4-4 in the majors, she would have responded one heart, not one spade.)

South had an easy pass with such a soft hand – 11 of his points in quacks. Note that four spades has four unavoidable losers, one in each suit.

Against three no-trump, West led the club seven. What did South do?

The winning line was to play on diamonds, dislodging East's entry before his long club was established. However, South won trick one with dummy's club nine, then played a spade to the 10, queen and king. If West had continued with the ace and another club, the contract would have failed, but he shifted to a low heart. Declarer won with dummy's king and played on diamonds to get home.

North 01-07-20
♠ J 9 8 7 3
♥ K 2
♦ 8 4 2
♣ K 9 2

West
♠ K 6 4 2
♥ A 10 6
♦ 10 5 3
♣ A 10 7

East
♠ 10
♥ 9 8 7 4 3
♦ A 9 7
♣ 8 6 5 4

South
♠ A Q 5
♥ Q J 5
♦ K Q J 6
♣ Q J 3

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	??	

Opening lead: ♣ 7

Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

6	7		3	1	4	2		8
4		3	8	2				7
						1		
9		4	7		2	6	3	1
				5				
7	3	2	6		1	8		9
		7						
3				7	6	9		5
5		1	4	3	8		2	6

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

9	7	6	3	4	1	5	8	2
1	3	8	5	9	2	7	4	6
2	5	4	6	7	8	9	1	3
4	1	9	7	3	6	2	5	8
6	2	3	8	1	5	4	7	9
7	8	5	4	2	9	6	3	1
3	4	1	2	6	7	8	9	5
8	9	2	1	5	4	3	6	7
5	6	7	9	8	3	1	2	4

Able Seaman Thomas Sawtell / ADF via AP

Seaman Boatswains Mate Malik El-Leissy watches a burning fire from HMAS Adelaide as the ship arrives at Eden to assist with wildfires on Monday. The wildfires have so far scorched an area twice the size of the U.S. state of Maryland. They have destroyed about 2,000 homes.

Australian crews race to contain blazes as damage bill soars

By NICK PERRY and KRISTEN GELINEAU
Associated Press

SYDNEY — Bolstered by cooler weather and desperately needed rain, exhausted firefighters in Australia raced to shore up defenses against deadly wildfires before the blazes flare again within days when scorching temperatures are expected to return.

The first hints of the financial toll from the disaster began to emerge on Tuesday. The Insurance Council of Australia said the estimated damage bill had doubled in two days, with insurance claims reaching $485 million.

That estimate comes one day after Prime Minister Scott Morrison said the government was committing an extra $1.4 billion toward the recovery effort in addition to the tens of millions of dollars that have already been promised. Morrison's funding announcement came amid fierce criticism from many Australians who say he has been too slow to respond to the crisis. He has also faced backlash for downplaying the need for his government to address climate change, which experts say helps supercharge the blazes.

The fires, fueled by drought and the country's hottest and driest year on record, have been raging since September, months earlier than is typical for Australia's annual wildfire season. So far, the blazes have killed 25 people, destroyed 2,000 homes and scorched an area twice the size of the U.S. state of Maryland.

In New South Wales state, 130 fires were still burning on Tuesday, around 50 of which were uncontrolled. The day's cooler, rainier weather was providing thousands of exhausted firefighters a "psychological and emotional" reprieve as they scrambled to strengthen containment lines around the blazes before temperatures rise again, said Shane Fitzsimmons, commissioner of the New South Wales Rural Fire Service.

"It really is about shoring up protection to limit the damage potential and the outbreak of these fires over the coming days," he told the Australian Broadcasting Corp.

The rain was not heavy enough to extinguish the blazes. Victoria state Emergency Services Minister Lisa Neville said on Monday at least 8 inches of rain would need to fall in a short time to snuff out the fires – around 20 times what has fallen across the region in the past day. And officials warned that Australia's wildfire season – which generally lasts through March – was nowhere near its end.

The rain was also complicating firefighters' attempts to strategically backburn certain areas, and was making the ground slippery for fire trucks.

Thousands of army, navy and air force reservists were being dispatched to battle the fires. On Tuesday, rescue crews were still trying to reach some affected communities. A barge was en route to Mallacoota, a coastal town in Victoria cut off for days by fires that forced around 4,000 residents and tourists to shelter on beaches over the weekend. About 300 people were still waiting to be evacuated on Tuesday. Heavy smoke squandered the navy's efforts to airlift the stranded residents out on Monday.

"We know it's frustrating for them," state response controller Gavin Freeman told Australia's Nine Network on Tuesday. "We made several attempts yesterday to get Blackhawks into them but visibility was too poor and it was too dangerous."

Kenya police: 3 arrested trying to enter British Army camp

By TOM ODULA and CARA ANNA
Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — Kenyan police say they arrested three "terrorist suspects" who tried to force their way into a British Army training camp on the same day al-Shabab extremists attacked a military base and killed three U.S. military personnel.

An internal police report seen by The Associated Press says the three men were arrested Sunday after trying to enter the British Army Training Unit in Laikipia county. The British army said in a statement that Kenyan police were investigating "suspicious activity" and that "we do not believe there was a direct threat to UK personnel or assets."

Meanwhile new details emerged in the al-Shabab attack, the al-Qaida-linked group's first assault against U.S. forces inside Kenya.

The attack at Manda Bay Airfield killed 23-year-old U.S. Army Specialist Henry Mayfield Jr., the NBC affiliate in Chicago reported, citing a family statement. Two other Americans, contractors with the U.S. Department of Defense, were killed but their names have not been released.

No Kenyans were killed, Kenya's military spokesman Paul Njuguna said Monday. Al-Shabab has vowed retribution for Kenyan troops fighting it in neighboring Somalia, where it is based.

Moon renews invitation for Kim to visit South Korea

By KIM TONG-HYUNG
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Tuesday said he hopes to see North Korean leader Kim Jong Un fulfill a promise to visit the South this year and called for the Koreas to end a prolonged freeze in bilateral relations.

In his New Year's speech, Moon also reaffirmed his government's commitment to resume inter-Korean economic activities that have been held back by U.S.-led sanctions imposed on the North over its nuclear weapons and missiles program. Any resumption would depend on progress in the larger nuclear negotiations between Washington and Pyongyang.

North Korea suspended virtually all cooperation with the South during a deadlock in those larger talks, while also pressuring Seoul to break away from Washington and restart the joint economic projects, which would breathe life into the North's broken economy.

Moon called for the North to respond to Seoul's efforts to resume bilateral dialogue, saying an improvement in inter-Korean relations would also help induce progress in the nuclear negotiations. He urged the North to refrain from military demonstrations and threats that would potentially hurt the momentum in nuclear negotiations with Washington.

"The South and North should work together so to create the conditions for Chairman Kim Jong Un's visit (to South Korea) as soon as possible," Moon said during a nationally televised speech.

"I have a willingness to meet again and again and hold ceaseless dialogue. We will continue to invest efforts for the resumption of the Kaesong industrial park and tours to Diamond Mountain," he said.

South Korean tours to the North's Diamond Mountain resort were a major symbol of rapprochement between the rivals before they were suspended in 2008 after a North Korean guard fatally shot a South Korean tourist.

Seoul's previous conservative government shut down a jointly run factory park in the North Korean border town of Kaesong in 2016 following a North Korean nuclear test.

Moon's comments came days after Kim appeared to sideline inter-Korean issues during a key ruling party conference where he declared to strengthen his nuclear deterrent in face of "gangster-like" U.S. sanctions and pressure. The North Korean state media's account of the meeting did not include any mention of South Korea.

Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency said Tuesday that Kim visited a fertilizer factory recently and reiterated his call for his people to stay resilient in a struggle for economic "self-reliance" in face of sanctions, saying the "fiercer the adverse wind raised by the hostile forces gets, the fiercer our red flag will flutter in high spirits."

North Korea also last year dialed up military tensions, conducting 13 rounds of ballistic tests that potentially expanded its abilities to strike targets in South Korea and Japan, including U.S. military bases there.

The North also in October demanded that the South clear out its hotels and other properties at the North's Diamond Mountain resort, expressing frustration that the South won't defy international sanctions and resume South Korean tours at the site.

The quick erosion in inter-Korean relations been a major setback to Moon, a son of North Korean war refugees who met Kim three times in 2018 while expressing ambitions to reboot inter-Korean economic engagement.

In their third summit in Pyongyang in September 2018, Kim and Moon had vowed to restart South Korean tours to Diamond Mountain and normalize operations at the Kaesong factory park when possible, voicing optimism that sanctions could end to allow such projects. Kim also during the meeting promised Moon he'd visit Seoul "in a short time."

But without a breakthrough in the nuclear talks between Washington and Pyongyang, the economic projects remain shelved. No North Korean leader has visited South Korea's capital since the 1950-53 Korean War ended in a cease-fire.

Venezuela's would-be leader of congress shrugs off accusations

By FABIOLA SANCHEZ and JOSHUA GOODMAN
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — The would-be new leader of Venezuela's congress dug in Monday against accusations that he facilitated a takeover of the country's last democratic institution by socialist allies of President Nicolás Maduro.

Luis Parra insisted that parliamentary rules were followed when he was elected head of the National Assembly on Sunday in a session in which security forces loyal to Maduro blocked opposition leader Juan Guaidó from attending.

Parra, a previously unknown backbencher mired in accusations of bribe-taking, said the 150 lawmakers in attendance more than satisfied the quorum requirements in the 167-seat legislature. He said 81 of those present voted for him, including 30 members of the opposition, in a stunning rebuke of Guaidó, who had expected to easily win re-election.

But in rambling comments to journalists who challenged his every assertion, Parra acknowledged he didn't know who exactly had voted for him during the chaotic session, in which a handful of socialist lawmakers stormed the dais in a rushed show of hands. Nor could he square the apparent results with the 100 lawmakers who elected Guaidó in a roll call vote held later in the day at an emergency session at a Caracas newspaper.

"We're seeking the list," he said, insisting the tally would be provided in the coming hours.

The rival claims to the legislature's mantle, however bizarre, have plunged the South American nation once again into crisis, setting the stage for another battle for institutional power of the sort Venezuelans have grown used to in recent years.

While Guaidó enjoys the full support of the U.S., and even leftist governments like Argentina and Mexico condemned the government's actions, there's no indication Maduro's grip on power – especially the armed forces – is weakening. Nor do analysts expect mass protests like the ones that a year ago accompanied Guaidó's bold challenge to Maduro to resume anytime soon.

"Without protests or control of parliament, Guaidó has little bargaining power," said Phil Gunson, a Caracas-based analyst for the International Crisis Group.

Parra, in a press conference from the floor of the legislature, tried to project an image of independence, saying he never had been nor would ever be a Chavista – as supporters of the late leader Hugo Chávez are known. But while blasting Maduro for the oil-rich nation's collapse, he also took repeated aim at Guaidó, saying he had put his own political ambitions ahead of Venezuelans' urgent needs.

As the head of congress, he said he would focus on practical initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life for Venezuelans beset by hyperinflation, power outages and widespread food and medicine shortages.

However, if Guaidó and the U.S. have their way, he may never get his chance.

Vice President Mike Pence said on Twitter he spoke with Guaidó Monday, offering his support "until your #libertad is restored!"

Elliott Abrams, the State Department's special envoy for Venezuela, said far from outmaneuvering Guaidó, the government took a serious gamble in sending out the military to prevent his re-election.

"This was something the regime didn't want to do," Abrams said in a press conference from Washington. "I don't think they come out yesterday stronger, but weaker."

He praised opposition lawmakers, several of who had been in hiding from prosecution and re-emerged to vote for Guaidó in what he called an "extraordinary"' demonstration of "courage and unity."

He said he was hopeful that Maduro's few remaining allies like Russia and Cuba would re-evaluate their support for the socialist.

But in a statement, Russia's foreign ministry said Parra's election was the result of a "legitimate democratic procedure."

A year ago, Guaidó asserted at a street demonstration that his position as legislative leader made him Venezuela's interim president in place of the "usurper" Maduro, whose 2018 reelection has been rejected by the U.S., European Union and several Latin American governments. Key opposition figures were barred from running in that election.

The weeks leading up to Sunday's vote were marked by tension, with the opposition alleging a covert government campaign to intimidate and bribe lawmakers into voting against Guaidó.

Amid the confusion, evidence surfaced showing how Parra allegedly coordinated the work of a group of opposition lawmakers who, in exchange for payments, allegedly lobbied authorities in Colombia and the U.S. on behalf of businessmen tied to Maduro. For their actions, the lawmakers were all expelled from their parties last month.

Venezuela sits atop vast oil and mineral resources, but it has been imploding economically and socially in recent years. Critics blame the plunge on years of failed socialist rule and corruption, while Maduro's allies say U.S. sanctions are taking a toll on the economy. The South American nation's 30 million people suffer soaring inflation and shortages of gasoline, running water and electricity, among basic services.

An estimated 4.5 million Venezuelans have abandoned their nation in an exodus rivaling war-torn Syria.

Guaidó vowed to hold a session at the legislative palace Tuesday, setting up a potential showdown with the government-backed faction, which has also scheduled a congressional debate at the federal building.

Andrea Hernandez Brice / AP

Lawmakers Luis Parra, center, Franklyn Duarte, right, and Jose Noriega, left, give a press at the National Assembly in Caracas, Venezuela, on Monday.

Oil price keeps rising as industry eyes Iran-U.S. conflict

By MATT O'BRIEN
Associated Press

Hasan Jamali / AP

The sun sets behind an oil pump in the desert oil fields of Sakhir, Bahrain. The global benchmark for crude oil rose above $70 a barrel on Monday for the first time in over three months, with jitters rising over the escalating military tensions between Iran and the U.S.

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island — The global benchmark for crude oil rose above $70 a barrel on Monday for the first time in over three months, with jitters rising over the escalating military tensions between Iran and the United States.

The Brent contract for oil touched a high of $70.74 a barrel, the highest since mid-September, when it briefly spiked over an attack on Saudi crude processing facilities. Stock markets were down as well amid fears of how Iran would fulfill a vow of "harsh retaliation."

"The market is concerned about the potential for retaliation, and specifically on energy and oil infrastructure in the region," said Antoine Halff, a Columbia University researcher and former chief oil analyst for the International Energy Agency. "If Iran chose to incapacitate a major facility in the region, it has the technical capacity to do so."

Still, many analysts say they see little cause for concern about damage to the U.S. economy resulting from the jump in oil prices. Some note that higher energy prices can actually benefit the overall economy because the United States is now a net exporter of petroleum products. And the Federal Reserve's commitment to low interest rates means the Fed is unlikely to raise rates anytime soon to counter any inflationary effects from higher oil prices.

But economists caution that an escalation in the Trump administration's confrontation with Iran could pose new risks to the economy in the long run.

The U.S. killed Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani in Iraq on Friday. Early Sunday, as Iran threatened to retaliate, President Donald Trump tweeted the U.S. was prepared to strike 52 sites in the Islamic Republic if any Americans are harmed.

Fears that Iran could strike back at oil and gas facilities important to the U.S. and its Persian Gulf allies stem from earlier attacks widely attributed to Iran.

The U.S. has blamed Iran for a wave of provocative attacks in the region, including the sabotage of oil tankers and an attack on Saudi Arabia's oil infrastructure in September that temporarily halved its production. Iran has denied involvement in those attacks.

"Targeting oil infrastructure could raise prices and bring worldwide economic pain and put Iran on the front burner," which might be exactly the kind of message its leaders are looking to send, said Jim Krane, an energy and geopolitics researcher at Rice University.

Analysts noted that American households devote a smaller proportion of their spending to energy bills than in the past. That is in contrast to previous periods, when a surge in oil prices often preceded recessions.

The proportion of their spending that U.S. consumers devote to gasoline has fallen to a historic low of 2.5 percent, down from more than 6 percent in the early 1980s, economists at Credit Suisse noted in a research report.

Though the U.S. economy can better withstand a jump in oil prices than it once could, the global economy is still vulnerable.

"Higher oil prices are still very much a negative for the global economy, and that will reverberate back on us," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics.

Sung Won Sohn, economics and business professor at Loyola Marymount University, said that if the current crisis were to escalate into a much bigger confrontation, it would represent a potentially serious threat:

"If the situation does not escalate beyond the current level, I would say this will be a minor hiccup for the economy. But if it becomes a war and the Strait of Hormuz is closed, then we are looking at a major economic problem."

Global stock markets have been sliding since Friday. European indexes were down over 1 percent on Monday after Asia closed lower. Wall Street was expected to slide again on the open, with futures down 0.6 percent.

Brent crude was up $1.07 at $69.67 a barrel, putting it up almost 6 percent since before the Iranian general's killing.

At the same time, experts say the effect of a Middle Eastern geopolitical crisis on oil prices isn't as great as it once was. The U.S. energy industry can ramp up shale oil production in places such as Texas, for example.

Pier 1 Imports closing nearly half of stores as sales falter

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Pier 1 Imports is closing nearly half its 942 stores as it struggles to draw consumers and compete online.

The home decor company said Monday it is closing up to 450 stores and will also shutter distribution centers. It didn't say where the store closures would occur, but it operates stores in the U.S. and Canada. Pier 1 also plans layoffs at its corporate headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas.

The moves had some investors wondering if a bankruptcy filing was imminent. Also Monday, Pier 1 added two members to its board with expertise in corporate restructuring.

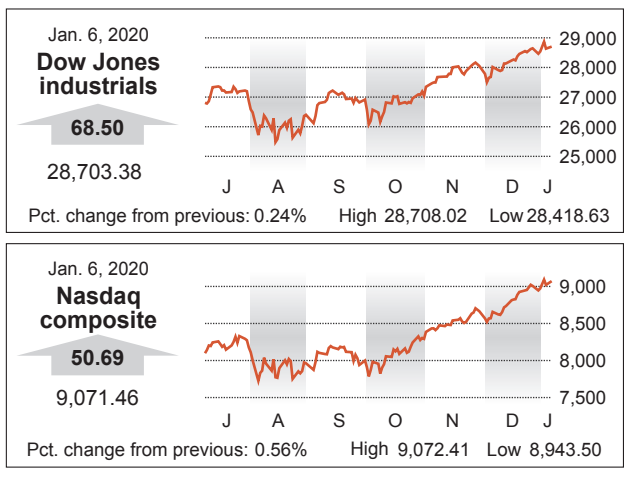
Pier 1's shares fell 17 percent to close at $5.18 Monday. They fell another 8 percent in extended trading following the announcement of the store closures.

Pier 1 named a new CEO with a background in corporate turnarounds in November. Robert Riesbeck previously served as the company's chief financial officer.

"Although decisions that impact our associates are never easy, reducing the number of our brick-and-mortar locations is a necessary business decision," Riesbeck said Monday in a statement.

Pier 1 said sales in its most recent quarter fell 13 percent to $358 million as store traffic fell. It reported a net loss of $59 million for the quarter, which ended Nov. 30.

Markets



Amer Elec Power AEP
$93.67 **+.31 +.3%**
▲ **4-wk.** +2.0% ▼ **YTD** -.9%

Whirlpool WHR
$147.29 **+1.37 +.9%**
▲ **4-wk.** +.7% ▼ **YTD** -.2%

LocalStocks

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LO	HI	◇CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR
AT&T Inc	T	28.92	39.70	39.10	+.04	+0.1	▲	▲	▲
AEP	AEP	72.95	96.22	93.67	+.31	+0.3	▲	▲	▼
Apple Inc	AAPL	145.90	300.60	299.80	+2.37	+0.8	▲	▲	▲
AutoZone	AZO	803.28	1274.41	1165.71	-22.27	-1.9	▼	▼	▼
BP PLC	BP	35.73	45.38	39.85	+1.02	+2.6	▲	▲	▲
CMS Eng	CMS	48.79	65.31	62.59	+.28	+0.4	▲	▲	▼
CocaCola	KO	44.42	55.92	54.67	-.02	...	▬	▲	▼
Comcast	CMCSA	34.67	47.27	44.67	-.34	-0.8	▼	▲	▼
Deere	DE	132.68	180.48	176.81	+1.26	+0.7	▲	▲	▲
Disney	DIS	107.32	153.41	145.65	-.85	-0.6	▼	▼	▲
DollarTree	DLTR	88.26	119.71	93.03	...	...	▬	▼	▼
ExxonMbl	XOM	66.31	83.49	70.87	+.54	+0.8	▲	▲	▲
FifthThird	FITB	24.17	31.64	30.19	-.25	-0.8	▼	▼	▼
1stSource	SRCE	41.88	53.42	51.19	-.28	-0.5	▼	▲	▼
FordM	F	8.16	10.56	9.16	-.05	-0.5	▼	▲	▼
GenElec	GE	7.65	12.00	12.14	+.17	+1.4	▲	▲	▲
HomeDp	HD	172.00	239.31	219.96	+1.03	+0.5	▲	▲	▲
HorizBcp	HBNC	15.21	19.48	18.66	-.04	-0.2	▼	▼	▼
HuntBncsh	HBAN	12.15	15.63	14.57	-.24	-1.6	▼	▼	▼
IDEX	IEX	130.00	173.95	172.94	+.18	+0.1	▲	▲	▲
IBM	IBM	119.76	152.95	134.10	-.24	-0.2	▼	▲	▬
JPMorgCh	JPM	98.09	141.10	138.23	-.11	-0.1	▼	▲	▼
JohnJn	JNJ	125.00	147.84	144.10	-.18	-0.1	▼	▲	▼
Lowes	LOW	90.23	121.46	120.35	+.75	+0.6	▲	▲	▲
McDnlds	MCD	173.41	221.93	202.33	+2.25	+1.1	▲	▲	▲
Microsoft	MSFT	100.98	160.73	159.03	+.41	+0.3	▲	▲	▲
MillerHer	MLHR	31.27	49.88	41.97	+.37	+0.9	▲	▼	▲
Penney	JCP	0.53	1.92	1.12	+.02	+1.8	▲	▼	▬
Perrigo	PRGO	40.68	57.50	49.28	-.68	-1.4	▼	▼	▼
Pfizer	PFE	33.97	44.56	38.88	-.05	-0.1	▼	▲	▼
ProctGam	PG	89.08	126.60	122.75	+.17	+0.1	▲	▼	▼
RepubSvc	RSG	73.53	90.62	90.60	+.39	+0.4	▲	▲	▲
Steelcse	SCS	14.45	23.02	20.13	-.16	-0.8	▼	▲	▼
Stryker	SYK	157.43	223.45	212.22	+2.63	+1.3	▲	▲	▲
TCF Finl	TCF	35.96	47.71	46.00	-.42	-0.9	▼	▲	▼
Target	TGT	67.17	130.24	123.58	-1.18	-0.9	▼	▼	▼
TractSupp	TSCO	82.03	114.25	91.65	-.31	-0.3	▼	▼	▼
UPS B	UPS	92.65	125.31	116.20	-.52	-0.4	▼	▼	▼
VerizonCm	VZ	52.28	62.22	60.27	-.13	-0.2	▼	▼	▼
WEC Engy	WEC	67.80	98.19	91.31	+.07	+0.1	▲	▲	▼
WalMart	WMT	93.11	125.38	117.65	-.24	-0.2	▼	▼	▼
WalgBoots	WBA	49.03	74.95	59.59	+.51	+0.9	▲	▲	▲
Wendys Co	WEN	15.66	22.84	22.13	-.25	-1.1	▼	▲	▼
Whrlpl	WHR	114.00	163.64	147.29	+1.37	+0.9	▲	▲	▼
Worthgtn	WOR	33.18	44.69	41.17	-.03	-0.1	▼	▲	▼
XPO Logis	XPO	45.73	86.47	76.93	-1.31	-1.7	▼	▼	▼

Lyft's good-guy image tainted by sexual assault lawsuits

By CATHY BUSSEWITZ
AP Business Writer

John Bazemore / AP

Caroline Miller poses for a photo in Cartersville, Ga., on Dec. 13. Miller is one of more than a dozen women who jointly filed a lawsuit against Lyft after she says she was raped by a driver after a night out celebrating her birthday.

NEW YORK — For years, Lyft has been the good guy of ride-hailing. In early days, its cars were adorned with whimsical pink mustaches. Its founders talked about improving peoples' lives by reducing individual car ownership. And while Uber drivers grabbed headlines for assaulting passengers, somehow – despite many drivers working for both companies – Lyft remained unscathed.

That changed when dozens of women filed lawsuits against Lyft in recent months, claiming that they were sexually assaulted by the company's drivers. The women said Lyft did not do enough to keep them safe, and several said that when they reported the incidents, Lyft did little or nothing to make it right.

"They didn't even really say sorry at all. They just said, 'OK, well we're going to send you your money back,'" said Caroline Miller, 21, who says she was raped by a Lyft driver after a night out celebrating her birthday. "I didn't even get an email. It was crazy. They kind of just pushed it under the rug, and were like, 'whatever.'"

Miller is one of 19 women who jointly filed a lawsuit against Lyft in December. They argued Lyft could have done more to protect passengers by requiring in-car video monitoring and conducting fingerprint-based background checks, and they said Lyft does not adequately investigate customer complaints of sexually inappropriate behavior.

Lyft declined an interview for the story but spokeswoman Ashley Adams said in an email, "Not a day passes when we aren't thinking about the safety of our platform."

Adams said Lyft launched more than 15 new safety features in the past few months, including in-app emergency assistance, continuous criminal background monitoring of drivers and mandatory feedback for rides rated less than four stars.

The lawsuits are chipping away at the image of corporate responsibility that Lyft carefully cultivated as its larger rival, Uber, slogged through scandals in recent years. When Uber's former CEO Travis Kalanick resigned after accusations of rampant sexual harassment inside the company in 2017, Lyft co-founder John Zimmer told the New York Times, "There's nothing to celebrate in this situation." But, he added, "it does shine a light on the importance of values and ethics."

Now some are questioning how deep those values and ethics go. Organizations that work with sexual assault victims are applauding Uber's efforts to tackle safety issues after the company released a long-awaited report that revealed 464 people, mostly riders, reported that they were raped while using its services in 2017 and 2018. Meanwhile, Lyft has largely remained silent on its own issues with assault, noting that it, too, will release a safety transparency report but hasn't said when.

"Lyft has seen this coming, and they should have acted more aggressively before now," said Richard Levick, a crisis communication expert in Washington. "You cannot take the woke position, you cannot take a mercantile activism position, and not mean it."

"Lyft was the non-frat culture alternative to Uber," Levick added. "If that's who you are, how can safety be an afterthought?"

When choosing between Uber and Lyft, many riders go with the cheaper or quicker option. Others are swayed by perceptions about safety.

Alison Turkos was among the many people who deleted the Uber app in 2017 because of reports of internal sexual harassment at the company. But later that year when she took a Lyft after a night out with friends, she was kidnapped at gunpoint, driven across state lines and gang-raped by the driver and at least two other men, she said.

Some attorneys who represent survivors of sexual assaults that happened in both Lyft and Uber vehicles suspect the safety problems at Lyft may be worse than at Uber, based on the number of cases they have, the companies' relative size and the severity of the incidents.

"The fact that people perceive Lyft as safer is just ignorance," said Michael Bomberger, founding partner at Estey & Bomberger, a firm that represents more than 50 riders who say they were assaulted by Lyft drivers and 50 to 100 who say they were assaulted by Uber drivers.

Another rape survivor, who wished to remain anonymous, said she had fallen asleep in the back of a Lyft car after a night out drinking and woke to the driver molesting her from the front seat. Fearing for her life and thinking of her 7-year-old son, she fought back. The driver pulled over on a dark street and they somehow tumbled out of the car. Her arm was caught in the vehicle as he eventually drove away, dragging her body on the pavement. She broke free and crawled to a nearby house where a woman answered the door and helped her.

After reporting the incident to Lyft, she never heard whether the driver was deactivated, she said. That kept her up at night, since the driver knew where she lived.

"If there was a camera in the car that night, I can almost guarantee that nothing would have happened," she said. "I think Lyft has done a super, super great job hiding all of this." The Associated Press does not name sexual assault victims who wish to remain anonymous.

Lyft says any driver involved in an incident is immediately disabled and not allowed to drive until the issue has been adjudicated. The company also may put a hold on any community member involved. Lyft also said it's committed to share information with the industry about drivers who are deactivated.

Lyft said drivers must pass initial background checks including a social security number trace, nationwide criminal search, county court records search, federal criminal court records search and a U.S. Department of Justice 50-state sex offender registry search.

Critics say Lyft should also require potential drivers to submit fingerprints because a Social Security number can be faked. Lyft says the fingerprint database is incomplete and discriminates against minorities because it includes incomplete arrest records, rather than just convictions, and minorities are far more likely to be arrested and listed in the database even if they had been later cleared of charges.

BUSINESS & SERVICE GUIDE

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HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

Express your thoughts openly this year and move on without looking back. A precise approach will help you eliminate waste. Look at change as being a path to success. Explore, expand and hone your skills to suit your journey.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Find out exactly what others have to offer before you get involved in a joint venture. If you are doing most of the work, you are best off going solo.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Share information and clear up any uncertainty someone has regarding your intentions, or vice versa. Communication and understanding will help keep the peace. Nurture a meaningful relationship. Romance is featured.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Take on only what you know is feasible. Focusing on critical issues will lead to good results and a favorable response. Broaden your horizons and explore new possibilities.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Look inward and focus on how to make the most of what you have. An updated look, a kind gesture or a healthier lifestyle is favored. Romance is in the stars.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Keep up with what's trending. Times are changing, and having all the facts on hand will be necessary to make a good decision. Look at your options and be realistic.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Make a physical change that will improve your appearance, position or an important relationship. Less debate and more action will keep you out of trouble.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Don't let pushiness be your downfall. Ask once, and if the answer is no, move on. You'll come out on top if you are resourceful and focused.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Gather as much information as possible. Make choices based on facts, insight and experience. Taking action rather than waiting for someone else to go first is in your best interest.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A clean slate will put your mind at ease. Don't be afraid to follow the path that interests you most. Reach out to those who bring out the best in you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Rest should be scheduled. Kicking back with people who share your interests and concerns will keep you centered and on track with the least amount of physical effort.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Look, see and do. Let your creative imagination run wild. Associate with people you find inspiring. What transpires will be revolutionary. Be a leader, not a follower.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Refuse to let interference ruin your day. Concentrate on what you enjoy doing most and on supportive people. Take better care of your health and meaningful relationships.

Responding to employment ads that contain a Herald-Palladium box #

No telephone calls please! We will not reveal the name of the box holder.

(A) Reply with your sealed letter Addressed as follows:

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If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then: B) attach a note listing which firms are NOT to receive your letter; and (C) send every thing in ANOTHER E N V E L O P E addressed as follows:

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If the advertiser is among the names you don't want to contact, we will destroy your sealed letter.

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You may also reply to ads with Herald-Palladium box numbers by e-mail. Do not attach your resume rather type it or copy & paste it directly into your e-mail program. Send your e-mail to: jobs@heraldpalladium.com

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then begin your e-mail with any company(s) where you do not wish to apply. Then include the Herald-Palladium box address as shown above.

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To protect our readers, Herald-Palladium policy requires that all companies list their names when placing ads in our publication. Employment advertisers who wish to remain anonymous must rent Herald-Palladium boxes so that we can insure our readers that they are not responding to their current employers or any other company to which they do not wish to apply.

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LEGALS

*****MEETING*****

The Twin Cities Area Transportation Authority regularly scheduled board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 12:00 pm at 499 W. Main St., Benton Harbor

MEETING NOTICE

Hagar Township Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Notice:
The Hagar Township Zoning Board of Appeals is moving their regular January meeting to Wednesday, January 22nd at 7pm, at the Hagar Township Hall, 3900 Riverside Rd, Riverside, MI. If you have questions, please call 269-849-0455

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF BERRIEN Trial Court- Family Division

PUBLICATION OF PARENTAL- RIGHTS TERMINATION HEARING

CASE NO. 2019-0103-NA-M

Courthouse, 811 Port Street, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085
269-982-8613

TO: Jason Wayne Smith

IN THE MATTER OF: Sylas Michael Crockett (11/13/2019)

A hearing regarding termination of parental rights will be conducted by the court on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 10:00 am in Berrien County Courthouse 811 Port Street St. Joseph MI 49085, Courtroom 405 before Attorney Referee Steven Flood (P41625).

This hearing may result in the termination of your parental rights. You have the right to an attorney. There is no right to a jury at this hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Jason Wayne Smith personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above.

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF BERRIEN

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO. 2019-1057-NC-M

In the matter of Edward John Goodline

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at Berrien County Courthouse, 811 Port St., St. Joseph, MI **before Judge** Mabel J. Mayfield P41498 **for the following purpose:**

Petition to Change Name of Edward John Goodline to Kevin Von Lentz.

Date: January 3, 2020

Attorney:
Blair M. Johnson
P75639
800 Port Street, P.O Box 618
Saint Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 982-1100

Petitioner:
Jamie Cross, Guardianship and Alternatives, Inc.
P.O Box 240
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(269) 782-2953

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EMPLOYMENT

PROFESSIONAL

The Town of Trail Creek is seeking a part-time Street Commissioner. The Street Commissioner is responsible for the overall safe and proper operation/ maintenance of the street department. An above average degree of expertise and knowledge is required to ensure that all street paving, maintenance, signage and water drainage needs of The Town of Trail Creek are met. The Street Commissioner is also responsible for determining operational changed, equipment modifications, and supply needs. Other responsibilities include overseeing employees, training, disciplinary action, and safety. The Street Commissioner is responsible for communicating all expenditures and funding needs to the Town Council and Clerk-Treasurer. Applications can be picked up from the Town Hall located a 211 Rainbow Trail, Trail Creek, Indiana, starting Friday, January 03, 2020 from 8:00 - 2:00 pm and should be returned to the Town Hall no later than 2:00 pm January 17, 2020

Joshleen M. Denham
Clerk-Treasurer
Town of
Trail Creek
(219) 872-2422

EDUCATION/ TEACHING

Long-Term Substitute Math Teacher

River Valley School District
Employment info at:
www.rivervalley schools.org
Deadline: January 24th or until filled

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Full and Part Time Guards for outside security gate attendant in Michigan City/ Portage area.
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Starting at $11.00 - $12.00 per hour.
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EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Watervliet, MI
Finance Director: Accounting or Finance BA with CPA certification preferred; Watervliet Public Schools; Apply by January 31 or earlier. To apply see online posting at https://hiringsolutionsllc.com/msbo/Watervliet_Finance_Director

Kalamazoo, MI

Journeyman Electrician

Kalsec® is the leading global producer of natural spice and herb flavor extracts, natural colors, natural antioxidants and advanced hop products that help food and beverage companies make their products look better, taste better and last longer... naturally. For over 50 years, we have added value to our Customer's brands by providing safe, reliable, innovative natural solutions while respecting the people and planet in which we interact.

Why Kalsec®?
We offer outstanding career opportunities for those striving to develop their talents in a family owned, globally focused company. We nurture a culture driven by creativity and innovation, while respecting an employee's desire for stability and a strong work/life balance.

Founded in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Kalsec® has delivered a brand built on honesty, integrity and trust that will keep us sustainable for the next 100 years. Continued growth of our business has resulted in offices worldwide including Asia, Europe, Mexico and North America.

Kalsec®, is currently seeking a highly talented Journeyman Electrician to join the I&E Maintenance team. The successful candidate will maintain production equipment operability by the installation, troubleshooting, calibration, and repair of the plant instrument and control systems and equipment.
Specific job functions include but are not limited to:
(1) Troubleshooting and repair of the plant PLC systems, including Allen Bradly and Opto22.
(2) Troubleshooting and repair of 480VAC systems, including motors, motor control centers, VFDs, and panelboards. (3) Be able to read, interpret, and mark up for revision, P&ID, Electrical, and Loop drawings.
(4) Adhere to the standard for arc flash protection as required in NFPA 70E. (5) Understand and implement the NFPA 70 National Electrical Code in an industrial setting as it applies to Class 1 Div. 1 hazardous locations.
The ideal candidate will possess advanced problem-solving skills including the ability to think critically about difficult challenges, determine the root cause of problems hindering production and Process Safety Management (PSM), and apply sound strategies to solve them through the Management of Change (MOC) process.
To be successful, the candidate must possess excellent communications skills, being able to clearly and effectively communicate with peers, other departments, and supervision spanning multiple shifts.
Requirements
• Journeyman Electrician state license (Industrial).
• Experience in troubleshooting with an understand of troubleshooting best practices for manufacturing systems and equipment.
• Must be able to read P&ID's, electrical diagrams/drawings, schematics, loop drawings, and electrical schedules.
• Experience with Class 1 Div. 1, Class 2 Div. 2, and Intrinsically Safe requirements.

Desired:
• Five (5) years of Journeyman Electrician experience.
• Three (3) years of instrumentation calibration.
• Well versed in good documentation recording practices.
• Background in CMMS systems and their function in the plant.
• Basic understanding of the requirements of Arc Flash.
• Basic understanding of Process Safety Management (PSM).
• Preferred background in Quality Assurance, Food Defense, and Safe Quality Foods.
• Well versed in the requirements of OSHA and MIOSHA as they apply to the Journeyman

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Electrician position. This includes Lock Out Tag Out (LOTO).
• Basic understanding of Computer software, MS Office, and MS Outlook.

Kalamazoo, MI

Instrumentation Technician

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Why Kalsec®?
We offer outstanding career opportunities for those striving to develop their talents in a family owned, globally focused company. We nurture a culture driven by creativity and innovation, while respecting an employee's desire for stability and a strong work/life balance.

Founded in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Kalsec® has delivered a brand built on honesty, integrity and trust that will keep us sustainable for the next 100 years. Continued growth of our business has resulted in offices worldwide including Asia, Europe, Mexico and North America.

Kalsec®, is currently seeking a highly talented Instrument & Control technician to join the I&E Maintenance team. The successful candidate will maintain production equipment operability by the installation, troubleshooting, calibration, and repair of the plant instrument and control systems and equipment.
Specific job functions include but are not limited to:
(1) Troubleshooting and repair of the plant PLC systems, including Allen Bradly and Opto22.
(2) Troubleshooting and repair of plant instrumented systems. (3) Be able to read, interpret, and mark up for revision, P&ID, Electrical, and Loop drawings.
(4) Calibration of gauges, transmitters, switches, and controllers in Class 1 Div. 1 hazardous locations.
(5) Maintain NIST tracible documentation for all

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

calibrations. (6) Test and document the safety instrumented function (SIF) of instruments.
The ideal candidate will possess advanced problem-solving skills including the ability to think critically about difficult challenges, determine the root cause of problems hindering production and Process Safety Management (PSM), and apply sound strategies to solve them through the Management of Change (MOC) process.
To be successful, the candidate must possess excellent communications skills, being able to clearly and effectively communicate with peers, other departments, and supervision spanning multiple shifts.
Requirements
• Associate degree in Instrument and (Process) Control (I&C) or equivalent.
• Experience with calibration and calibration best practices.
• Instrumentation experience, including but not limited to, transmitters, switches, indicators, gauges, PH, guided wave radar, sonar, and PLC interfacing.
• Well versed in instrumentation test equipment.
• Have a good understanding of the physical properties of flow, level, temperature, and pressure, and how these properties interact and affect instrumentation and processes.
• Experience in troubleshooting with an understand of troubleshooting best practices for manufacturing systems and equipment.
• Must be able to read P&ID's, electrical diagrams/drawings, schematics, and loop drawings.

Desired:
• Five (5) years of calibration experience.
• Five (5) years of troubleshooting instrumentation and process control systems.
• Well versed in good documentation recording practices.
• Background in CMMS systems and their function in the plant.
• Experience with Class 1 Div. 1, Class 2 Div. 2, and Intrinsically Safe requirements as it applies to instrumentation.
• Basic understanding of the requirements of Arc Flash.
• Basic understanding of Process Safety Management (PSM).
• Preferred background working with Quality Assurance, Food Defense, and Safe Quality Foods.
• Well versed in the

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

requirements of OSHA and MIOSHA this includes Lock Out Tag Out (LOTO).
• Well versed in computer software, MS Office, and MS Outlook.

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1. Do people seem to mumble or talk in a softer voice than they used to? __Yes __No
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4. Do you often need to ask others to repeat themselves? __Yes __No
5. Has someone close to you pointed out that you may have a hearing problem? __Yes __No

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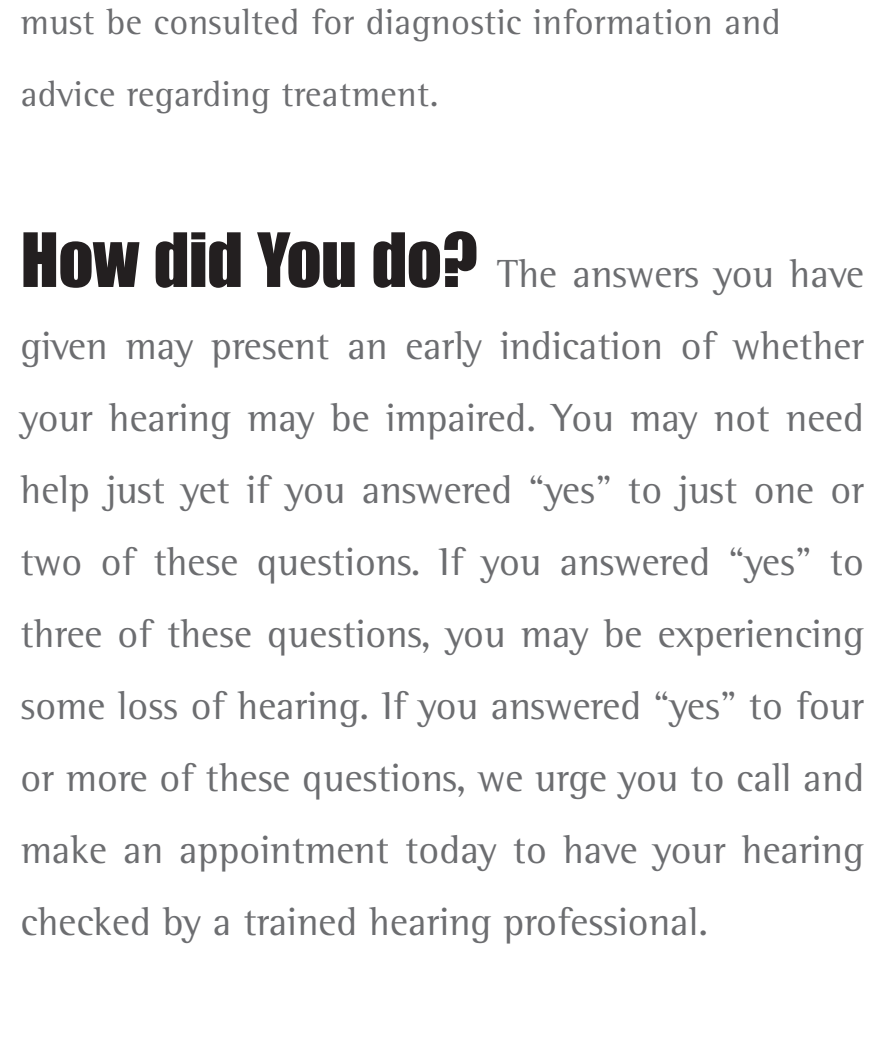
The answers you have given may present an early indication of whether your hearing may be impaired. You may not need help just yet if you answered “yes” to just one or two of these questions. If you answered “yes” to three of these questions, you may be experiencing some loss of hearing. If you answered “yes” to four or more of these questions, we urge you to call and make an appointment today to have your hearing checked by a trained hearing professional.



Lyric is off the charts as far as clarity and crispness. I feel like I don't have hearing loss. I feel pretty much as good as I've ever felt about my hearing.

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January 7th – 9th

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Reason #4:
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Reason #5:
We love to spoil our patients! We do so by exceeding all expectations.

Reason #6:
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or more often than a few

71% usually check inse

67% make a point to lo
when in the market for w

66% say inserts make i

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4.4 days is the average tim

How Ame

Newspaper advert
A destination, not

Newspaper Association of America 4401 Wilson

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Scarborough Research 2008
erica Shops and Spends/ MORI Research 2009

tising.
a distraction.
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Blvd., Suite 900, Arlington, VA 22203 571.366.1000

170 Million

Adults read a newspaper in print or online in the past week.

115 Million

Readers who make newspapers an important part of their Sunday tradition.

56%

According to Google, a healthy percentage of consumers research or purchase products they see in the newspaper.

61%

18–34 year–olds read a newspaper in any given week.